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BAHRAIN

COMMENTARY ON IRAQI-IRANIAN DISPUTE, GULF ISLANDS

GFO91218 Manama AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 9 Apr 80 p 5 GF

[News analysis by Ahmad Zaman: "Where Next in the Iraqi-Iranian Dispute?"]

[Text] So far, none of the political observers has been able to predict where the deterioration in Iraqi-Iranian relations will lead following the events of the last few days--events that began with the attempt to assassinate Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz. An individual alleged to be of Iranian origin threw a handgrenade at him during a student meeting at Al-Mustansiriyah University, south of Baghdad. This incident resulted in an exchange of fierce accusations between the two sides in which Baghdad accused the Iranians of seeking to incite sectarian sedition in Iraq and of being responsible for the crime at Al-Mustansiriyah University, which has so far claimed the lives of three students.

Iran, on the other hand, has accused the Iraqi leadership of persecuting Shi'ites in Iraq and of being responsible for many of the acts of sabotage that are occurring regularly in Iran, especially in 'Arabistan [Khuzestan].

The political and ideological differences between the two neighboring countries have not developed overnight, they are the natural outcome of differences between the two regimes. The Iraqi regime, which has pan-Arab aspirations and is pursuing a socialist line in economic development, is bound to differ with the Iranian regime, which views its revolution as an all-embracing Islamic revolution that should include all Muslim states.

In addition to this profound ideological difference between the Iraqi and Iranian revolutions, there are numerous other differences that led to the reciprocal withdrawal of ambassadors. The most important of these differences are:

1. Since the inception of the Iranian Revolution, Iraq has been demanding that Iran withdraw from the three Arab Gulf islands of Greater Tunb, Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa, which were occupied by Iran in 1971 during the former shah's rule. A few days ago, Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi sent a message to UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim demanding Iran's immediate withdrawal from these Arab islands and their return to the Arabs. However, in a recent statement Iranian President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr said Iran will not return these islands as long as the existing Arab regimes in the Gulf are--according to this claim--under U.S. tutelage. Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh has also affirmed that Iran will not give up these islands on the pretext that they are Iranian territory.

We believe that Iraq should not remain alone in this matter. All Arab states, and particularly the Gulf states, should make a collective effort--within international organizations--to regain these Arab islands and return them to their legal owners. The international community is aware that until a few years ago these islands were Arab territory inhabited by an Arab population.

We also believe that it is a thousand times more in Iran's than in the Arabs' interest that Iran return the islands. If Iran is now denying that it wants to be the policeman of the Gulf area--a role that was assumed by the fugitive shah--why then is it holding on to these Arab islands, unless it is harboring the same desire?

2. Iraq is calling for the amendment of the Iraqi-Iranian agreement on Shatt al-Arab signed in Algiers in 1975. The Iraqi leadership believes that the agreement was signed in inappropriate circumstances making it more favorable to Iran, and with the invalidation of these circumstances the two sides must amend this agreement in a way that maintains the two countries' interests. However, the Iranian leadership insists on retaining the agreement and sees no justification for amending it, especially as it was signed by the present Iraqi president, Saddam Husayn.

3. In view of its pan-Arab affiliations, Iraq supports the Arab minority in Iran, especially in 'Arabistan, and asks that their problems be solved in a progressive manner. Iran sees this as interference in its internal affairs.

The foregoing was a quick examination of Iraqi-Iranian differences--differences that have recently led to border incidents between the two countries, fierce accusations and a daily escalation in tension. We hope the Iranian leadership will respond to the voice of reason and logic and return the islands to their rightful owners.

KUWAIT

EDITORIAL URGES ARABS TO SUPPORT IRAQ IN DISPUTE WITH IRAN

GF091320 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 8 Apr 80 p 1 GF

[Editorial: "In a Confrontation Between Arabs and Persians the Arab Is True to Himself"]

[Text] We hope war will never erupt between Iraq and Iran. The climate of escalating tension between the two states is being fueled by mutual doubts, fiery statements and irresponsible attitudes--particularly on the part of Iran.

By all accepted criteria, the leaders of the Iranian Revolution bear the greater responsibility for spreading an atmosphere of tension and provocation throughout the entire Gulf area. These leaders have failed to fulfill their slogan of "exporting revolution" and have succeeded only in exporting a bad reputation of the revolution and its great leader Imam Khomeyni.

The Iranian Revolution, which has succeeded in achieving its dream of ousting the shah from the peacock throne, has failed to rid itself of expansionist dreams and has shown itself to be no less a hegemonist and expansionist than the shah.

We hope the climate of war will not be imposed on the already inflammable Gulf area. War is not only an Iraqi-Iranian responsibility, but it is the responsibility of the entire Gulf area, which will suffer its direct and indirect results and consequences, be they short or long term.

As an Arab Gulf state we must be true to ourselves and support the Arab side (Iraq) in this escalating crisis, and in a dispute that has been initiated by Iran on the premise of "Arabs and Persians," and not on the premise of an Islamic revolution that is interested in helping other Islamic states establish the rule of Islam.

One must painfully ask: Where is the great Muslim neighbor Iran headed? Where is it taking its people and the Gulf area? The Iranian ship appears to be sailing in uncharted waters with an impotent captain, a crew divided among themselves and no compass or mast.

UAE

PAKISTANI MINISTER CONCLUDES 4-DAY VISIT

JN081511 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1500 GMT 8 Apr 80 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 8 April--Pakistani Communications Minister Mohyuddin Baluch concluded his 4-day visit to the UAE today and left for home. During his visit, the Pakistani minister held talks with a number of UAE officials on cooperation in the field of telecommunications.

DANISH ENERGY MINISTER ARRIVES 10 APR

JN100928 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0910 GMT 10 Apr 80 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 10 April--Danish Energy Minister Poul Nielsson arrived in Abu Dhabi today on the second leg of his tour of several states in the region. Nielsson was met by UAE Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah. During his 3-day visit, the Danish minister will hold talks on strengthening economic and energy cooperation between his country and the UAE. The Danish minister, who ended a visit to Doha today, is accompanied by a large economic delegation.

PDY

PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES ALGERIAN PARTY DELEGATION

ID091858 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 9 Apr 80 ID/EA

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, Political Bureau member, deputy chairman of the presidium of People's Supreme Assembly and prime minister, received in his office at noon today the Algerian FLN party delegation led by brother Muhamed Ali Ammar, member of the party Central Committee. The brother prime minister welcomed the delegation, after which there was a cordial discussion on relations between the parties, peoples and governments of the two brotherly countries. A number of issues of common interest were also reviewed, principally the situation in the Arab arena, the Middle East and the role of the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation in mobilizing and assembling Arab potentials against the reactionary-Zionist-imperialist conspiracy to which our Arab nation is exposed.

The brother prime minister praised the development of relations between Algeria and Democratic Yemen and the former's support for our country. He hailed the precious sacrifices made by the Algerian people to achieve national independence and build revolutionary Algeria. He described the relations between the two brotherly countries as strong and solid and said that their positions and views coincided on a number of Arab and international issues.

ISMA'IL INTERVIEWED ON GULF, ARAB ISSUES

LD091259 Paris AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI in Arabic 31 Mar-6 Apr 80 pp 18-22 LD

[Interview given to Adonis of AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI by PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium Chairman 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il--place and date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] I would like our discussion to begin with the immediate political situation. Therefore, can you explain to us the nature of the current relations between PDRY and the Saudi Arabian Kingdom?

[Answer] We believe in the policy of peaceful coexistence. We have been keen to pursue this policy in our relations with states with different social systems on the basis of fruitful cooperation and equal sovereignty. Within this framework, we have been and continue to be eager to establish normal relations between our country and fraternal Saudi Arabia on the grounds that it is the appropriate framework for solving political problems between the various systems and for creating opportunities for understanding on issues of mutual interest in a manner that promotes stability in the area. It is true that we are poor in resources, but we are rich in our principles. On this basis, we believe in the principle of equality of sovereignty among states irregardless of difference in their size, population and sources of wealth. This principle is consistent with all international charters governing normal relations among states, particularly the UN charter. Therefore, we are keen to establish normal relations with our brothers in Saudi Arabia on the basis of fruitful co-operation, good-neighborliness and noninterference in internal affairs. Despite the stagnant relations between the two countries, we are making efforts to end this stagnation in a manner that serves the interests of the two fraternal peoples and countries, enhances the opportunities for security and stability in the area and frustrates the schemes of world imperialism, particularly American imperialism, to create tense atmospheres to justify imperialist ambitions to occupy the oilfields in this area--ambitions which are no longer secret after they have been and continue to be announced by those who have these ambitions.

[Question] Is there no difference between Saudi Arabia's attitude toward the PDRY and that of the Gulf states?

[Answer] Irregardless of the difference in the length of our relations with the various states in the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf--such as fraternal Kuwait, for example, which was the first of the area's countries to recognize our regime and establish normal relations with it--we do not wish to have any discrimination in our relations with all the area's states because, as we have often announced, we are against the policy of axes and blocs in the area. We do not wish to have discriminatory relations with the area's states. However, our relations with Saudi Arabia were established very belatedly due to many circumstances and implications which surrounded our republic's relations with Saudi Arabia since independence toward the end of 1967. These relations have stagnated somewhat recently and we are now trying to end this stagnation within the general trend of the policy of peaceful coexistence which we wish to prevail in our relations with all the area's states. Except for this stagnation, good relations exist between our country and the rest of the Gulf states.

[Question] There has been a development in the American strategy in the area of the Gulf, the Red Sea and Saudi Arabia. In addition to its political domination, it now has a military presence. What danger does this change pose to the PDRY and the area in general? How do you interpret this American strategy from the military and economic standpoints?

[Answer] Before answering this important question, we must reassert that peace and warding off the dangers of war are among the most important aims of our people's and party's struggle. The struggle for peace enfeebles the world imperialist system, which is now fumbling about in a deep sea of economic crises that have beset it as a result of the world socialist system's mounting influence in the international sphere and the attainment of liberation by many developing states and their adoption of an independent economic and social development system that insures for them the building of modern national industries and safeguards their natural resources against illegitimate robbery by imperialism.

It is no secret that world capitalism is now experiencing many crises, including monetary, energy and inflation crises. These crises have caused grave damage to the economies of the developing countries and brought their peoples numerous difficulties and hardships. They have also engendered widespread discontent among the capitalist states' workers.

Since the destruction of the worn-out capitalist system is the only solution to rescue the capitalist states' workers and, consequently, developing states' workers, from the dangers of these crises, the imperialists are now resorting to a new way to prolong the life of the imperialist system--the way of the arms race, the manufacture and export of weapons and the fomenting of local wars and hotbeds of tension in order to safeguard their sources of energy and deepen economic subservience to them. By so doing they have helped to cushion the economic effects of the monetary, energy and inflation crises in their countries.

In discussing the situation in the Arab Gulf and Red Sea area we must not disregard the fact that this area is rich in oil and occupies a vital position on the international oil transportation routes. When we fully comprehend the world capitalist system's crises it will be easy for us to realize the aims of American strategy in this sensitive and energy-rich area of the world as well as the aims of the American threats to occupy the oilfields. We will also understand the significance of Carter's recent statements considering the Gulf area part of the United States' vital interests.

In our opinion, in its capacity as the leader of world imperialism, the United States will employ all methods to achieve its military and economic strategy, including the creation of tense atmospheres in the area's countries in order to turn them into markets for American weapons in return for oil, the use of threats to occupy the oilfields militarily and the parading of its naval fleets in the area's waters.

We believe that the dangers of this strategy do not affect the PDRY as much as they do the area's states in general. Therefore, confronting this strategy must include its interlinked economic, military and political aspects.

[Question] In the light of your answer, how do you assess the current Arab position vis-a-vis Israel on the one hand and American imperialism on the other?

[Answer] The tangible evidence confirms beyond any doubt American imperialism's hostility to supreme Arab national interests and legitimate Arab rights.

For a long time now the United States has been supporting the aggressive Israeli existence in the heart of the Arab world and funding the bestial criminal actions the Zionists have committed and continue to commit against Arab children, women and old people in Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and occupied Palestine. Meanwhile, American imperialism has not been content with illegitimate looting of the Arab homeland's resources but has gone to the extent of sounding the alarm and threatening to occupy the Arab oilfields and attempting to sabotage Arab solidarity against imperialism and Zionism.

The imperialists are now **definitely more afraid than ever before** of the general crisis of world capitalism. Therefore, they are assiduously trying to make public opinion in the capitalist countries believe that the developing countries, particularly the Arab countries, are responsible for the economic crisis the world capitalist system is now experiencing. This serves as a justification for imperialist military intervention to occupy the Arab oilfields and suppress the Arab people's liberation struggle. Israel is playing a prominent role in this plan through its expansionist aggressive activities against the Palestinian resistance, Syria and the Lebanese national movement, in addition to the plan for isolating Egypt from the Arab nation--a plan which is part of the hostile efforts aimed at weakening the Arab national liberation movement.

Within this context the imperialists are seeking to strike at the Arab national liberation movement forces' unity with the world revolutionary forces, cast doubt on the relations of strategic alliance with the Soviet Union and the rest of the socialist camp states and create peripheral problems to distract attention from the vital issues with a view to isolating the Arab revolutionary movement from its loyal allies. Therefore, the Arab struggle's vital position in the anti-imperialist world revolutionary operation becomes clear to us. Therefore, what is required is a clear revolutionary strategy based on the rule of determining who are the real friends and who are the real enemies as well as on clear class and national alliances inside every Arab country separately and on the general Arab level, pursuing a firm anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist policy by strongly allying themselves with the socialist countries led by the Soviet Union and with the world national liberation movement forces and all the forces which love peace, progress and liberation throughout the world.

Such a strategy should proceed from the intensification of the struggle against all present kinds of imperialist-Zionist moves in the area, including the treasonous Camp David agreement and the attempts to disrupt anti-imperialist Arab solidarity and all consequent suspect schemes.

The general Arab struggle against Zionism cannot be separated from the serious and clear struggle against the imperialist forces led by the United States. The Arabs have many weapons which they can use in this direction.

[Question] This leads us to ask about relations between the PDRY and the Soviet Union, especially since the Soviet Union is playing a prominent and basic role in helping the Arabs fight colonialism and imperialism and in supporting their efforts to develop and progress. What is the nature of these relations and what is your assessment of them?

[Answer] Our relations with the Soviet Union are excellent. What ought to be mentioned in this respect is the history of the relationship between our Yemeni people and the peoples of the Soviet Union--the first relationship to be established by an Arab people with the Soviet land when the 1928 friendship treaty was signed. As for the nature of this relationship, you ought to ask the sea, the mountain and the plain in the northern and southern parts of our country.

Since the discovery of the steam engine the ships of the pirates and foreign aggressors had threatened our country's security and plundered our resources, but the waters of Al-Hudaydah Port saw the first Soviet ship arrive in Yemeni waters in 1928 bringing wheat, oil, sugar and petroleum as aid from the Soviet Union to our Yemeni people, despite the difficult economic circumstances the Soviet Union was experiencing at the time.

Our mountains also bear witness to the fact that imperialist arms were instruments of death and destruction used by the old forces, foreign mercenaries and colonialists to fight our people's revolutionary will and new life, whereas Soviet arms have been a means for defending this new life since the dawn of 26 September and 14 October [revolutions]. The friendly Soviet Union was the first of the forces which rushed to rescue the Yemeni people and to help them in their struggle to build their new life by giving our people and country various kinds of technical economic, cultural and military aid. In the Yemeni plain there are now schools, dams, roads, institutes and factories which the Soviet Union has built to enable our people to build their new society and defend their gains.

We in the PDRY are very grateful for the honest aid the Soviet Union has given and is giving us, for its support for the Yemeni people's struggle to achieve progress and development in the future and for its unlimited support for the Arab people's struggle to liberate themselves from subservience, achieve social progress and wrest their legitimate rights, particularly the Palestinian Arab people's right to self-determination.

Thus, the opportunities for fruitful cooperation between the PDRY and the Soviet Union are increasing and friendly relations are constantly strengthening in a manner that serves our two countries' interest in peace and progress. No matter how much our enemies doubt this relationship, we tell them that it is not a transient relationship but a strategic one which will grow and develop continuously in the interest of friendship and peace between our two friendly countries and peoples.

[Question] In the light of your earlier analysis, how do you view the Iranian Revolution and what is the extent of your relations with it?

[Answer] The Iranian Revolution has expressed the ferocity of the confrontation the oppressed peoples are waging against the world imperialist system and its lackeys everywhere. Naturally, the Iranian masses understood from the beginning the organic link between the despotic shah's regime and world imperialism.

Events have proved that the Iranian people do not distinguish between the shah of Iran and his defunct regime on the one hand and American imperialism on the other. This people had experienced injustice, intimidation and exploitation under the shah's regime supported by American imperialism. Therefore, the downfall of the shah and his worn-out regime has not put an end to the Iranian Revolution's continued enmity to American imperialism, as is evidenced by what is now happening. In our opinion, what is now happening in Iran confirms the essence of this era--the era of imperialist collapse and transition to the socialist era. We do not separate the Iranian Revolution and the world revolutionary process on the grounds that the Iranian Revolution, which reflects the Iranian people's aspiration to free their country's resources from imperialist looting and utilize them in the service of their independent economic and social progress, is also helping to free Iran from the sphere of economic and political subservience to world imperialism. Therefore, it is part of the stream of the world revolutionary process aimed at weakening the world imperialist system. On the basis of this concept, we regard ourselves as standing in the same trench with the Iranian Revolution to confront the various imperialist plots to steal the peoples' wealth, control their destinies and obliterate their national sovereignty. It is on this basis that we also supported the Iranian Revolution in its difficult confrontation with the shah's regime and publicly adopted an attitude of solidarity with it at a time when others were wagering on the shah remaining and the masses' uprising failing. We also stood and continue to stand against all external and internal attempts to abort the anti-imperialist liberation trend in Iran. We have not contented ourselves with this. Direct contacts have taken place between our country and the Iranian Revolution leadership since its success in wresting power. These contacts are continuing in order to strengthen the cohesion of the struggle between the Iranian and the Yemeni revolutions. We have recently sent a special envoy to Tehran in this connection.

[Question] I would like now to go back to the Arab political situation and to your statement that you are against the policy of axes and blocs in the area. What is your opinion on the national charter propounded by Iraq?

[Answer] As we have often openly declared, we in the PDRY support every Arab effort to strengthen Arab solidarity against imperialism, reinforce the Arab front opposed to the American and Zionist plots and insure the implementation of the Baghdad and Tunis summit resolutions. At the same time, we are against the policy of axes and blocs, which does not serve the unity of the anti-imperialist Arab ranks, leads to disruption of the opportunities for security and stability and creates atmospheres of tension and doubt in the relations among brothers.

Irrespective of the motives and objectives of the Iraqi national charter, our position remains firm--namely, support for everything that will strengthen the anti-American imperialism and anti-Zionist Arab solidarity, repudiate the policy of axes and blocs and provide opportunities for fruitful cooperation among the Arab states on the basis of peaceful coexistence, equal sovereignty, noninterference in internal affairs and respect for every country's right to pursue an independent path of development.

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C 9

ARABIAN PENINSULA

PDRY REPORTS EGYPTIAN INTERESTS SECTION EMPLOYEES

ID061828 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 6 Apr 80 ID/EA

[Excerpts] The Aden News Agency has learned that the PDRY Government has deported the employees in the section looking after Egyptian interests in Aden. A responsible Foreign Ministry source commented that the move reflected Democratic Yemen's awareness of its national and pan-Arab obligations, its firm and principled policies and its effective role in the just Arab struggle. It also represents its commitment to the implementation of the decisions taken by the Baghdad and Tunis summits. The source told the Aden News Agency that Democratic Yemen appreciated and was satisfied with the (?big) step taken by the fraternal Egyptian national progressive forces in uniting in the Egyptian national front. He said: We regard it as an important step not only within the framework of the national struggle of the fraternal Egyptian people but also within the context of Arab struggle as a whole.

In conclusion, the source appealed to the fraternal and friendly Arab countries and the peace and freedom-loving countries to support the just causes of the Arab nation, as well as the struggle of the fraternal Egyptian people represented by the Egyptian national front.

YAR

PRESIDENT'S ADVISER LEAVES FOR KENYA, SUDAN

JN041447 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1415 GMT 4 Apr 80 JN

[Text] San'a', 4 April--'Abdallah al-Asnaj, YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih's political adviser, left San'a' for Nairobi and Sudan today. Mr al-Asnaj stated that he will hold talks with Kenyan officials on Yemeni expatriates in Kenya and several issues of common interest.

Al-Asnaj added that during his visit to Sudan, he will convey an oral message from President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih to Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri dealing with bilateral cooperation.

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E G Y P T

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PRESIDENT AS-SADAT ADDRESSES NATIONAL PRESS CLUB 10 APR

NC101845 Cairo MENA in English 1805 GMT 10 Apr 80 NC

[10 April address to National Press Club in Washington by Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat]

[Text] Washington, April 10--Thank you for according me this wonderful opportunity to meet with you once again. I am always happy to be here. This is a place where I qualify, as a former journalist, for full membership and not merely for an honorary degree. I would like to commend you on your coverage of recent developments in the world at large and in the Middle East in particular. Your reporting and analysis of the news reflected genuine concern and admirable self-restraint. You kept your fellow Americans informed without resort to sensationalism or provocation. In time of crises and trouble, the mission of the media becomes most vital and its responsibility is doubled. I am glad you are discharging such awesome responsibility with a sense of purpose and direction.

Since we were here, the world has witnessed several developments of great significance. We cannot be indifferent or apathetic toward these events, as they deeply affect the very fabric of our life. Geographic distance is no longer a barrier to interdependence. Nor can ethnic or cultural differences shield any nation from the impact of developments which take place in all four corners of the globe. Hence, the right answer to such a rapidly changing world is not isolation, but genuine concern and involvement. What is needed is better understanding and a greater degree of sensitivity to human suffering. No one can live isolated from the rest of the world today. No one should hesitate to fulfill his mission in defense of liberty and justice.

I believe that the proper answer to the mounting problems around us is not fanaticism or self-deception. History has taught us that extremism creates more problems than it solves. What we need now is a greater measure of tolerance and soul-searching. We are confronted with the challenge of reexamining our conception of the universe and our role in life, both individually and collectively. In so doing, we cannot hide behind empty slogans and platitudes. We should undertake this task with candor and courage. Problems will not disappear if we gloss over them or make believe they do not exist. Nor would reality adjust itself to fit into our own perception. The complex problems of our contemporary life do not lend themselves to simple answers. Rather, what is required is vision and courage.

I strongly believe that we still have a chance to save the world and rekindle hope in the minds and hearts of the coming generations. I disagree completely with the voices of doom and gloom. My outlook on life remains a bright and optimistic one despite all alarming signs. Seven thousand years of recorded history have instilled in our souls a deep sense of confidence in divine justice and human nature. At no point should we lose faith or waver in our determination to make the world safer and happier for every human being. If this involves some risks, we should be prepared to take them for the sake of human salvation and survival. As you know, I have never hesitated to take such risks when I deemed it necessary for the advancement of the cause of peace and fraternity among nations.

It has often been suggested that politics are amoral. I beg to differ. It is obvious that the proponents of such cynical views have not fully absorbed the lessons of history. If we divorce our political life from ethics and moral values, we will be destroying the essence of our collective existence. Life will not be worth living if it is divested of the time-honored norms of justice and equality among peoples of different creeds and persuasions. We should not tolerate double standards or resort to the law of the jungle. Justice should be the final arbiter between nations: big or small... rich or poor...advanced or emerging. We all share an interest in the elimination of injustice and the healing of the wounds of the past. We all have the same destiny and an equal responsibility to improve the quality of life everywhere.

The world is passing through an era of rising tension and ever-escalating conflict. Naturally, the causes of such state of affairs date back to the past three decades. The policy of detente, which succeeded several systems based on the balance of power, is undergoing certain adjustments and refinements. I believe that we should pursue a policy of lessening international tension and decreasing the chances for a major confrontation of which no one benefits. Halting the arms race remains in the best interest of all nations. However, all this should be achieved in a state of equilibrium and on the basis of mutuality. No power should be allowed to take advantage of detente. Any attempt to revive the worn-out concepts of spheres of influence ought to be checked without hesitation. These new forms of intervention we are witnessing must be confronted promptly and vigorously. Collective measures can be taken in and outside the United Nations.

The answer to intervention by one power is not counter-intervention by another. Nor is it the formation of military alliances or the establishment of military bases on foreign soil. Rather, nations should be assisted to build up their own capability to (stem) intervention and deter aggression. Third World states should not fight the battle of others under any banner. They should be encouraged to observe the true philosophy and principles of non-alignment. Recently, we undertook a drive to rejuvenate the movement and correct its course. A new mechanism should be devised for safe-guarding the political and economic independence of all nations. A united front of those who are opposed to adventurism and intervention must assume its responsibility before it becomes too late. We have to follow a positive policy of dynamic action, rather than timid reaction and hesitation.

I am currently in touch with some of our partners in the movement to ensure that. I hope that we can remedy the situation through concerted action and enlightened activism.

Of all the areas of rising tension in the world, our region gets the lion's share of unrest and instability. This is so because of a variety of reasons. First and foremost, the Palestinian problem remains the main source of tension in the area. Its impact is clearly felt throughout the Arab world and, in fact, in most parts of the Islamic world. This is why I have insisted all along that the Palestinian question is the core of the Middle East conflict and that it must be given top priority in any peace effort. Final settlement cannot be reached without the full participation of the Palestinian people. On the other hand, the continuation of the present conditions is untenable.

Therefore, we thought of an initial step in the form of a transitional arrangement for a period not to exceed five years. Such a formula does not constitute a settlement, but rather, an opening to a settlement. It is a preparatory step. At a later stage, the Palestinian people shall play a major role in reaching the final settlement.

Fortunately, we were able to agree in Camp David with the indispensable help of President Carter, on the establishment of a Palestinian self-governing authority to replace the Israeli military government and its civilian administration. The essence of this formula is the transfer of authority from Israel to the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza. We insist on effecting such a genuine and far-reaching chance in accordance with the letter and spirit of Camp David. The Palestinian people should be enabled to take control of their own affairs free from any interference. Any attempt to prolong Israeli control, under one pretext or the other, is doomed to failure. The goal is to attract the Palestinians to the peace process. Without their active involvement, the entire process remains incomplete. In short, their participation is crucial.

Reaching agreement on this transitional arrangement should not have been a problem. As I once told Prime Minister Begin, the holding of lengthy talks on this issue was unnecessary. I urged him to effect full autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza as an Israeli gesture and in response to my historic visit to Jerusalem. This would have constituted a tremendous contribution to the cause of peace. Would it not be a very effective declaration of intent and a token of good will?

I trust that you agree with me that Egypt has been fulfilling all its obligations under the peace treaty in a spirit of generosity and ahead of schedule. We were never stopped by trivialities and minor matters. This spirit remains to be reciprocated. There is also an urgent need for the taking of confidence-building measures on the part of Israel. What is involved here is freeing political prisoners, lifting restrictions on political activities and reuniting families. Such measures would certainly create an atmosphere of trust and cooperation.

Naturally, a final settlement should be based on the right to self-determination. Such is the dictate of justice and legitimacy. It is also the consensus of world public opinion. The Palestinian people cannot be singled out of all peoples to be denied this God-given right. As I told the Israeli people during my visit to Haifa last September, the exercise by the Palestinians of their right to self-determination poses no threat to Israel and its security.

On the contrary, it is the only sure way to peaceful and harmonious co-existence. In the final analysis, security is enhanced and guaranteed by mutual acceptance and respect of rights. In the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty, we set a model for security arrangements that protect the legitimate interests of all parties. Such measures are applicable to other fronts as well.

I firmly believe that no nation is more qualified than the American people to support that right. It is deeply ingrained in American thought and practice. In August 1941, the Atlantic charter reaffirmed this fundamental American commitment as follows: "They respect the right of all peoples to choose the form of government under which they live and they wish to see sovereign rights and self-government restored to those who have been forcibly deprived of them."

The policy of building Israeli settlements in Arab occupied territories is a serious obstacle to peace. It is unfounded, ill-conceived and illegal. It generates hatred and friction. It is the worst formula for coexistence. In fact, it is an invitation to further violence and unrest. Much has been said about the right of Jews to live anywhere. Certainly, all peoples must be treated equally and without any discrimination. However, no people has any right to live in other peoples' territory without their consent and free acceptance. To say otherwise would not only run contrary to the norms of international law and legitimacy, but it would also create a dangerous precedent none of us can live with. The effort which is wasted on such futile exercises should be directed towards imaginative ways and means for promoting peace and good-neighborly relations. Reconciliation cannot be obtained through the expropriation of land and the implanting of hostile entities in the heart of other peoples' land.

The question of Jerusalem deserves our utmost attention. As well it invokes a multiplicity of interests and emotions, it has a unique centrality in Islamic, Christian and Jewish thought. We would like to set there a model for tolerance and togetherness among all believers. This cannot be achieved under the present circumstances. The annexation of territory by force and the expropriation of other people's land cannot stimulate the sort of coexistence we are promoting. The unification of the city cannot be used as a cover for expansion and denial of right. We proposed another formula which is certain to revive the great tradition of brotherhood among the community of believers in the holy city. Arab sovereignty and Islamic and Christian rights would be observed in East Jerusalem while the city remains united in all functions and services. It would also be open to all worshippers of God and the unrestricted freedom of movement would be guaranteed.

Mr. Chairman, the second source of tension and turmoil in the area is foreign intervention. To be sure, this is not a new phenomenon in the world at large and in the Middle East in particular. The region, with its strategic location and vast resources, has always attracted foreign intruders and exploiters. For the past centuries, it has been the object of hot contention and polarization among competing powers. However, the plague of foreign intervention has lately witnessed a cancerous growth which is most dangerous to the entire world and the system which has governed its movement to date. Coming at a time when we were striving to achieve a greater measure of independence and freedom for all nations, such a development is a serious setback and a real challenge to all those who are concerned with world stability and security. If it goes unchecked, the consequences would be very bleak indeed.

The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan came as an alarming signal. Not that it was unexpected. In fact, it was a natural consequence of the events which took place in Africa and Asia during the last two decades. As you would certainly recall, I have been cautioning against such developments all along. Preferably, this escalation of intervention should be confronted by the family of nations collectively. But in the absence of such a stand, every nation should do all that it can do to deter aggression. On our part, we spared no effort in this respect. It is not secret that we are helping our brothers in Afghanistan. We will continue to aid them until they free their land. The design behind this move goes beyond Afghanistan. It points out to the Gulf area with its huge resources and strategic significance. The implications are also obvious if those who claim to be in command there are able to comprehend the complexity of our world.

Let me state before you in no ambiguous terms, that Egypt will never remain idle if any aggression is attempted against the Arab countries of the Gulf. That continues to be our national commitment regardless of any political disagreements. To us, it is a matter of strategic security. Thus, we will act promptly and vigorously against any such assault whatever the source might be. We are not doing so out of hostility towards any nation, but rather with full awareness of the dangers involved. In our region, Egypt has always been, and will continue to be the stabilizing force and the balancer. We have undertaken this responsibility in the most unselfish spirit. We never pursued our interest to the detriment of other nations' own interests. It is our destiny and we fully accept it.

It is quite clear that a strong Egypt is vital to peace and stability in Africa and west Asia. With our own resources and the help we receive from our friends, we are strengthening our system in all fields. Your assistance has been pivotal for the success of our endeavor. Despite our ever-growing domestic needs, we are sharing whatever means we have with any friend in need. It is a source of satisfaction for us to contribute in every conceivable way to the efforts of more than forty countries. We will never abandon our friends and we will never shirk our responsibility.

Much has been said lately about Islam and the role it is playing in shaping modern life. Some have spoken of the "Islamic revolution," certain practices have been associated with Islamic teachings. One should view all that carefully and with a discerning mind. Islam presents a comprehensive theory of life and the goals of mankind. Such a doctrine is based on the universal brotherhood of man. The central element in it is the goodness of human nature. It is based on the concept of tolerance and compassion. All nations of fanaticism and hatred are alien to Islam. A true Muslim is, by definition, a true believer in equality and justice for all. Excesses that have been perpetrated in the name of Islam are a disgrace to those who commit them, but they should not have any reflection on Islam and its teachings.

Dear friends, yesterday and the day before, President Carter and I held very fruitful talks in the same spirit of amity and friendship that has characterized all our meetings. I am pleased to inform you that I am quite satisfied with the outcome of these talks. I have no doubt that they will contribute to furthering the cause of peace in the Middle East. We agreed on certain specific steps for the purpose of enhancing the prospects for reaching agreement on the establishment of the self-governing time. As ever, I found President Carter a man of vision and perception. His commitment to peace is unquestionable. So is his dedication to justice and moral values. We consider him a great asset. In the weeks and months ahead, we will be pursuing for mission together in the interest of all nations in the area.

We are also grateful to each and every American. We are proud of you and your cooperation with us. Under the most difficult circumstances, you demonstrated exceptional qualities which are worthy of great nations. You have shown courage and wisdom. You may rest assured that such an attitude does not go unnoticed by other nations. Perhaps rising expectations are always hard to meet, but, again, this is the historic mission of great nations. I pray to God to grant you all the strength you need and lighten your path. Thank you.

Question, Answers

NC102115 Cairo MENA in English 2045 GMT 10 Apr 80 NC

[Text] Washington, April 10--(MENA)--Following are the questions and answers of the press conference given by Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat at the National Press Club today:

Q. Given Prime Minister Begin's policy do you think that premier Begin has lived up to the spirit of Camp David, and would you hope to work in the future with a less hard-minded leader?

A: First of all let me state this. Begin is a friend and friendship to me has got big dimensions. We have always discussed this settlement policy, and in the four times we met in Al-Arish, Alexandria, Haifa and Aswan, I told him my viewpoint candidly. But as I stated in my speech now, this settlement issue is really an impediment to the efforts that all of us are trying to fulfil for reaching the comprehensive settlement. Let us hope that after the talks of Premier Begin with President Carter some new development would take place that we can continue to achieve the final agreement of the comprehensive settlement.

Q: Do you agree with the statement that if commitment is present, you can reach agreement within weeks?

A: It has happened before, in the first time, I'll tell you, when I met with my friend Begin, I asked him, "Let us agree on a political directive to give to our ministers, so that what is supposed to be achieved in months, we can achieve in days and hours." You may remember that in the treaty between Egypt and Israel, it was supposed that the process of normalisation would take place six months after the exchange of ambassadors. Well, in Aswan I told Premier Begin: "Why six months? Why shouldn't we do it in six hours."

In a month all the process of normalisation was complete instead of six months. For sure, if there is a political directive that is agreed upon between Begin and me and President Carter, the agreement could be achieved within hours, not days.

Q: Is there very significant number of Iranians or pro-Iranians in Egypt that oppose your hospitality to the shah?

A: We have only in Egypt about a hundred Iranians, ten of them were against, so we sent them to Khomeyni. [general laughter]

Q: If you were President Carter, what would you do about the hostages in Iran?

A: I can't answer this question. Carter is a dear friend, and I always say that with the superpowers, it is not action that is needed, but restraint, because the superpowers can act in no time. They have all the resources and the possibilities to do wonders. I have said it myself. But, in such a problem like this, there are many repercussions, either in our area, or in the Gulf, mainly, or in the balance of power in our area also, which is very important. After the decision two days ago of President Carter, I think, you have started action, and all of us were waiting for this.

Q: What do you make of the present developments between Iraq and Iran?

A: In the situation between Iraq and Iran, there had always been a dream for Iraq to be the leader or the controller of the Gulf. This dream has always been impeded by Iran as the shah was the power of Iran. After Iran vanished, Iraq is now trying to prove to the Arab shaykhdoms of the Gulf that Iraq is the leader or the controller of the Gulf. But I don't think they will reach any extent more than from small skirmishes or so. I don't think that they are ready to join in real action against Iran.

Q: Do you share the shah's concern that one of the greatest threats to the Western world in an "unbridled press?"

A: My friend, as you know I have been the editor of our newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH in Egypt. But let me tell you, fellow colleagues, in all candour, that sometime the revealing of certain information that should not be revealed does harm. For that, let us hope that we can cooperate together, I mean the press and the executive. And maybe you know that the press in Egypt, after the last referendum we had on the treaty between Egypt and Israel, for which eleven millions voted "yes" and five thousands only voted "no", and in this same referendum, the press would be put in our constitution exactly as a power of the state like the executive, the legislative and the judiciary. It would be the fourth power in the state, according to our constitution. Friends, we should not deny the influence of the press on everyone.

Q: What specifically is Egypt doing to aid Afghanistan? And do you agree with President Carter's decision to boycott Moscow's Olympics, and would Egypt and other Arab states join the boycott?

A: About helping Afghanistan, I can't reveal anything. But, let me tell you this, we are doing our best. Maybe sometime to come we can say this. Regarding the olympic games, yes, we shall boycott it. [applause from the audience]

Q: Because this is the Presidential election year in the U.S. and there is at least a chance that we could have a new President, do you feel that a change in the leadership would have any effect on the peace negotiations in the Middle East?

A: Well, it happened before. The election of the President is the concern of the American people, and whom they elect we shall deal with. It happened before, yes, when Ford left and Carter took over. And this is something you must be proud of. When I met with President Carter for the first time in February 1977, just one month after he was sworn in, I found him completely briefed about the minutest detail, and we continued the peace process since that until now.

Q: How do you describe your relations with your southern neighbour the Sudan, which recently opposed your peace treaty?

A: Well, it is for some difficulties, especially some economic difficulties, that Numayri, president of the Sudan, and it appeared that the other camp in the Arab world have given him aid so, he started taking their side. But he didn't sever the relations, until now; and we shall not answer any attacks from his side. And let us hope that soon it would be proved who is wrong and who is right.

Q: You were quoted by Joseph Kraft as saying that the future of the present Saudi rulers is not bright. That being the case, do you see any orderly shift away from the monarchy, a coup by another power group, or a general upheaval as in Iran?

A: What has taken place, really, in Saudi Arabia, and of course, the Mecca incident, is something that no one that knows Saudi Arabia and lives in the area could have believed. I myself, if I were asked, I would have answered that not before twenty to fifty years such an action like this could take place. But it is a small world now. Yes, there are great dangers there in Saudi Arabia; but, let us hope that they can find the way and means to mend what the people complain from.

Q: Whom would you have represent the Palestinians? As you have denounced the PLO, Israel would not accept 'Arafat. Who then should speak for the Palestinians?

A: Well, I should like to put in the full picture. In our negotiations today for the full autonomy for the Palestinians, I am not speaking for the Palestinians, nor President Carter, nor Premier Begin, nor King Husayn if he chooses to join with us, because of the very simple reason that they should speak for themselves. What we are trying now to do is to end the Israeli occupation and put them on the right road towards self-determination after five years of transitional period, and in the process of full autonomy we shall be having the representatives of the Palestinians round the table with us. When I say with us, I mean, Egypt, the U.S. and Israel and King Husayn, if he chooses to join.

We shall have the Palestinians with us round the table, and this will be a great achievement. Because there will come the second stage or the next stage in which we shall sit according to the Camp David agreement, to decide on the future of the Palestinians as they should decide with us and agree or disagree, and in the Camp David agreement we have given them the veto.

Q: How do you regard the recent Israeli invasion in southern Lebanon?

A: Well, it is a very sad incident that has happened against the nursery there, in Israel. We have condemned this on both sides, either from the Arab side, or from Israel. This will not create the atmosphere which we are after to solve the problem there.

Q: If the Palestinian problem is resolved, in a way that satisfies the Arab states, do you think a pro-Western regional security pact could be formed in the Arab world to counter Soviet expansionism?

A: I don't exclude this fact. It is not only this, but also it will mean that the U.S. will have the support of 800 million Muslims all over the world. Not only our region, but 800 million Muslims.

Q: The U.S. has \$2 billion economic aid programme in Egypt. What is it doing?

A: Well, it is more than that. [laughter]. In fact, let me seize this opportunity, really, and express my people's and my own gratitude for the help you have rendered to us. Last year, there has been a plot in which our colleagues in the Arab world tried to choke us economically, and they cut the aid. The aid was \$500 million. They cut the aid, and it was the money we used for paying our installments. But thanks to the U.S., in the first place, and our friends in Western Europe, also, with the help of the U.S. we were able to overcome this. We are now working on a giant project of \$3 billion, not \$2 billion as you said, cultivating intensive agriculture on half a million acres as an agro-industrial complex for the first time in our part of the world, according to the latest American technology. And it has been proved, I mean, successful, because the feasibility study has been completed. And the pilot project is there for everyone to see.

Q: What do you feel could be expected if you make another visit to Israel?

A: Well, I was told that Premier Begin on the T.V. today said that he is ready to come and address the Egyptian assembly, as I addressed the Knesset in November 1977, and that he is waiting for the invitation. I have no objection. I have addressed the Knesset, and he has the full right to come to address the Egyptian assembly. But the whole matter started like this. I met with some Israeli editor last Wednesday and he said: "Why don't you come and address the Knesset and the Israeli people about the Palestinian question, because we are living in a dilemma there?" This was his question. I told him and it was right that in the back of my mind since two weeks before that, I was thinking of this because they are in Israel, yes, living a dilemma on the Palestinian question. And they are divided among themselves, and the peace process itself is in danger, so, at some time, I reached the conclusion that to ease my conscience, I shall be asking to face the Knesset again, and the Israeli people, and put the details of the Palestinian question, because the Israelis are going to live with us until the end of the world. Well, they should learn the facts of the area there and hear it and discuss it and reach their conclusion. Before they hear those facts, I feel that they can't take the right decision, so, it was my idea that I go there and put all the facts before them and they have to decide after that.

Q: Before I ask you one final question, Mr. President, I should like to present you with the certificate of appreciation of the club and also the National Press Club jacket.

Q: Now that Henry Kissinger is no longer Secretary of State and is now an author like you have been, how do you feel about him?

A: I met him yesterday evening. Really, the man I shall never forget; we have started together the peace process in 1973. And the first impression he had of me, as he told me afterwards when he was informed on the 6th of October of the start of the October War, he said, "Very well. We could have done business with this chap, but he will receive a hit much more bitter than the hit of 1967 and we can do nothing for him". And he told me he conveyed the message to President Nixon, at that time he was President, but everything has changed since then. For the first time he came to the area a few days after the cease-fire.

And we had a 3-hour meeting together in the place I took as my headquarters there, in Cairo. And after 1 hour of discussion, believe me, I felt that I had known this man for years and years. Maybe if I tell you how it came. I was telling him, we were putting the first touch for the peace process, and this was the six points that we started with, which angered the Soviet Union and Israel and all the others. And then when we put these points, we were discussing the possibility of pushing the peace process after the six points, and returning the relations between the U.S. and Egypt because they were severed at that time. And during the discussions, I remembered a German proverb: I told him: "I'm ready for peace. Yes, but the difficulty with those people in Israel, is that.. [word indistinct] how the German proverb that says 'when-ever you give them a finger, they grasp the whole hand.' Well, I told him the proverb in German he continued the proverb for me, also in German. This was the start of our friendship and the peace process.

Q: Thank you.

AS-SADAT MEETS U.S. EDITORS, RADIO, TV REPRESENTATIVES

NC110817 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0630 GMT 11 Apr 80 NC

[Text] Washington, 11 April--Yesterday at Blair House, President Anwar as-Sadat spoke to U.S. writers, chief editors and television and radio station representatives.

During the 1-hour meeting, the president answered questions which mainly centered on three topics: the president's discussions with U.S. President Jimmy Carter, the application of autonomy in Gaza as a model for what can be applied in the West Bank later; the proposal on a possible visit by the president to Jerusalem and of inviting Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin to visit Cairo and address the Egyptian People's Assembly.

Concerning his discussions with President Carter, President as-Sadat confirmed that he discussed with the U.S. President several alternatives that could end the deadlock in the autonomy negotiations. Despite this, he said, he would wait until Begin goes to Washington and until he acquaints himself with the results of his discussions.

President as-Sadat warned that a new situation would arise after 26 May if the current state of stagnation is not ended but he declined to enter into details about this new situation. His excellency said that this matter has not yet taken definite form in his mind and consequently he would wait until he becomes acquainted with the results of the discussions between President Carter and Begin.

Concerning the proposal on a visit by him to Jerusalem, President as-Sadat addressed the U.S. information media representatives saying: My proposal to go to the Knesset was in answer to a question by an Israeli journalist. At the Congress yesterday, I was asked by opinion on inviting Begin to visit Cairo. I answered that I had no objection at all and that the entire issue is still under discussion and has not yet been finally resolved.

President as-Sadat added: I do not object to inviting Begin to Cairo to address the Egyptian People's Assembly. I also have no objection to my visiting Jerusalem, if necessary. The proposal that I visit Jerusalem has been and still is a mere idea but after Begin raised the question on television this morning, of inviting him to Cairo, I will tackle these issues immediately after my return to Cairo and after I become acquainted with the outcome of President Carter and the Israeli prime minister's discussions.

Concerning the Palestinians participation in the autonomy discussions, President Anwar as-Sadat explained that the Palestinians will only join the negotiations if they feel that something fundamental will be achieved. The statements issued in Israel now and then, and the decisions taken to establish Jewish settlements, impede and undermine the peace efforts. Moreover, Menahem Begin's interpretation of autonomy--his theory that autonomy applies to the population and not to the land--does not attract the Palestinians to the negotiations table. President as-Sadat emphasized that despite this, he will not speak on behalf of the Palestinians regarding the question of self-determination. His excellency said: However, I intend to end the occupation and give full autonomy to the Palestinians. The elected Palestinians would then sit with us to speak for themselves.

President Anwar as-Sadat added: I will not negotiate a final settlement with Israel. I will only negotiate what will happen during the 5-year transition period and until the Palestinians come and sit with us as an existing entity.

Regarding the proposal on applying autonomy in Gaza as a model, President as-Sadat said: I proposed to Begin four times, during our meetings in Al-'Arish, Alexandria, Haifa and Aswan, that he apply autonomy in Gaza. He promised to submit this proposal to his Cabinet but I have heard nothing about this proposal since then.

Asked what would happen if the Palestinians themselves refused this autonomy, President Anwar as-Sadat said: The Palestinians might refuse the application of autonomy in Gaza as a model but in view of Egypt's special responsibility toward Gaza, I am prepared to impose autonomy there. The reason is that I would be imposing on them autonomy to replace Israeli colonization. I will be happy to do so.

President as-Sadat declared that he discussed this proposal with President Carter during their recent discussions when the question of the Jewish settlements was also brought up. President as-Sadat reaffirmed Egypt's position on the illegality of settlements, saying that the Camp David agreements include an understanding to stop the establishment of settlements and to hold negotiations on the old settlements. The president went on: If I was in Begin's position and I had the right to set up settlements, I would have refrained from doing so to preserve the atmosphere of the negotiations.

AS-SADAT RETURNS TO CAIRO FROM WASHINGTON

NC111051 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1045 GMT 11 Apr 80 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 11 April--President Anwar as-Sadat and his wife returned in God's safety to the homeland at 1345 today after a 4-day visit to the United States.

SPOKESMAN DENIES AS-SADAT AGREED TO EXTEND DEADLINE

NC1110758 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0708 GMT 11 Apr 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, 11 April--Cairo's AL-AKHBAR reports today that an official Egyptian spokesman has denied Israeli reports that President Anwar as-Sadat has agreed to a 2-month extension of the 26 May deadline for completing the Palestinian autonomy negotiations. The spokesman said that this subject was not raised at all during the discussions in Washington.

ARAB TERRORIST OPERATIONS WITHIN IRAN REPORTED

JN102113 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2030 GMT 10 Apr 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 10 April--During the past few days, the Arabistan region has been a scene of military revolutionary operations against the installations and members of the Khomeyni regime. Several economic utilities were destroyed, and a number of his elements were wounded as a result of these operations.

On 6 April 1980 the "7 April group" planted timed explosive charges under the oil pipelines between Ahvaz and Darkhovin. The charges went off as scheduled, destroying seven oil and gas pipelines, this led to the reduction in oil production from 580,000 barrels to 390,000 barrels per day at the Abadan refineries.

On 4 April a group of the Arabistan youth detonated an explosive charge under the gas pipeline between Abadan and Shahpur Port. The pipeline was completely destroyed. On 6 April a group of Arab youth in Arabistan planted an explosive charge at the television station. The charge went off as scheduled, destroying the equipment. On 2 April groups of the Arabistan youth planted an explosive charge under a water pipeline that supplies the Ahvaz oil area with water the pipeline was completely destroyed.

Another group planted an antitank mine in the (Wahralan) region. The mine went off under an Iranian military vehicle, destroying it, killing five Khomeyni guards, including two officers with the rank of captain, and wounding two others.

Another group planted a timed explosive charge in a prefabricated house factory near Ahvaz. The charge went off, destroying apart of the factory and a number of trailers which transport the products to Ahvaz. On 5 April a group planted an explosive charge in a car in Al-Muhammarah town. Five racists were killed and another was seriously wounded as a result of the explosion.

DEPORTED EMPLOYEES RETURN TO BAGHDAD FROM IRAN

JN101907 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1845 GMT 10 Apr 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 10 April--Five employees of the Iraqi technical missions in Iran who were deported by the Khomeyni regime arrived in Baghdad this evening. 'Ali Fakhr ad-Din, director of the Iraqi trade center in Tehran, said that the Iranian authorities treated the deportees in a manner showing the extent of the rancor and hatred these authorities harbor for the Arabs and Muslims and contradicting the international laws, regulations and usage.

CABLES FROM ARABISTAN GROUPS MARK BA'TH ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations From Political Organization

JN101652 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 Apr 80 JN

[Text of cable of congratulations from the Political Organization of the Arab people in Arabistan to Michel 'Aflaq, Iraqi Ba'th Party Secretary general, and Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, Ba'th Party deputy secretary general and regional secretary, on the Ba'th Party's 33d anniversary]

[Text] On the 33d anniversary of the leader Ba'th Party, the Political Organization of the Arab people in Arabistan sends you and the masses of the Arab nation in the greater Arab world its sincere greetings and good wishes. We pray to God to protect you and guide your steps in order to achieve the nation's goals and to establish the principles of its party.

The Political Organization, while continuing to liberate the land from the racist killers, derives its strength from the principles and ideas of our great party. It follows the party's militant and victorious march in its struggle. The organization adopts armed struggle to reach its legitimate goals.

We swear to remain faithful to our nation and to its great party. Long live the Arab nation's party, the Ba'th Party. Long live the Arab nation's goals for unity, freedom and socialism, immortality and glory for the party's martyrs, the martyrs of the Arab nation.

[Signed] The Political Organization of the Arab people in Arabistan.

Cable From Arab Masses Movement

JN101653 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 Apr 80 JN

[Text of cable of congratulations from the Arab Masses Movement in Arabistan to Michel 'Aflaq, Iraqi Ba'th Party secretary general, and Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, Ba'th Party deputy secretary general and regional secretary, on the Ba'th Party's 33d anniversary]

[Text] We send you greetings of Arabism and struggle in the midst of the events witnessed by our Arab region: The onslaught of reactionary and imperialist forces and their incitement of the chauvinist oppressive regime in Iran to harass the neighboring Arab states, to occupy them with differences involving side issues and to confront progressive forces, particularly the Ba'th Party, the leader of the march of the struggling Arab people and the achiever of our Arab nation's goals.

On the 33d anniversary of the leader party, we offer you our congratulations and our true feelings of faithfulness and love.

In the name of the Arab masses in Arabistan, we pledge that we will continue our struggle and armed resistance to realize our legitimate national rights and to hoist the flag of Arabism in every part of the greater Arab homeland. May you remain a support of oppressed masses.

[Signed] The Arab Masses Movement in Arabistan.

IRAQI CUBAN FOREIGN MINISTERS RESUME TALKS

JN101108 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1035 GMT 10 Apr 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 10 April--Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi and his Cuban counterpart Isidoro Octavio Malmierca held a second round of talks today on issues of common interest and on the Afghan crisis and its repercussions in the area. Viewpoints were exchanged on issues pertaining to the nonaligned movement, with the purpose of bringing about the movement's unity, affirming its independence and strengthening its international status, to enable it to play a positive role in resolving disputes among the world's states, especially the movement's member states.

The two ministers discussed the coming meeting of the nonaligned movement's Coordination Office and the movement's ministerial meeting, to be held in India in 1981.

An official Foreign Ministry source said that the discussions took place in an atmosphere of mutual trust and understanding, reflecting the relations of friendship existing between the two countries. The first round of talks was held last night, shortly after Mr Malmierca's arrival in Baghdad.

Meeting With Saddam Husayn

JN101147 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 10 Apr 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 10 April--President Saddam Husayn has received a written message from Cuban President Fidel Castro dealing with the international situation in general and Cuba's role in solving the Afghan problem. The message was conveyed to President Saddam Husayn this morning by Cuban Foreign Relations Minister Isidoro Octavio Malmierca.

During the meeting, the situation in southeast Asia, particularly in Afghanistan, and U.S. threats in the Arab region were discussed. The Cuban foreign relations minister reviewed the role played by his country in dealing with the situation [as received].

President Saddam Husayn then reviewed Iraqi stands, based on nonaligned principles, and Iraq's role in efforts to entrench those principles. Agreement was reached on the need to continue efforts to strengthen the nonaligned movement, solve the Afghan issue, maintain the states' independence, establish peace and avoid the cold war and the dangers threatening security and peace in the Arab region and Southeast Asia.

The 2-hour meeting was attended by Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi and by the Cuban ambassador in Baghdad.

Malmierca Concludes Visit

JN101743 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1730 GMT 10 Apr 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 10 April--Cuban Foreign Relations Minister Isidoro Octavio Malmierca left Baghdad today at the end of a 1-day visit to Iraq. During the visit, he conveyed a written message to President Saddam Husayn from Cuban President Fidel Castro. The Cuban minister said that he held talks with Iraqi officials on the current international situation, particularly the situation in Afghanistan, and the future of the nonaligned movement. He added that the talks, which were held in an atmosphere of complete understanding, expressed the depth of relations between Iraq and Cuba and the personal friendship between Presidents Saddam Husayn and Fidel Castro and between the two peoples.

SADDAM HUSAYN RECEIVES JORDAN'S CHIEF OF STAFF

JN101040 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0830 GMT 10 Apr 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 10 April--Staff Field Marshal Saddam Husayn, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, received Jordanian Chief of Staff Lt Gen 'Abd al-Hadi al-Majali here today. Staff Lieutenant General al-Majali conveyed greetings to President Saddam Husayn from His Brother His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. During the meeting, which was attended by the staff general chief of staff of the armed forces, relations between the two fraternal countries and ways of developing them were discussed.

ZAMBIAN PRESIDENT'S ENVOY LEAVES BAGHDAD 10 APR

JN101018 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1000 GMT 10 Apr 80 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 10 April--(Christoph Moyala), Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda's personal envoy to President Saddam Husayn and head of the research department of the Zambian United National Independence Party Central Committee, left Baghdad this morning. Mr (Moyala) said that his visit to Iraq was successful and contributed to strengthening friendly relations between Iraq and Zambia. He was seen off by several Foreign Ministry officials.

FOREIGN MINISTER SUMMONS U.S. AMBASSADOR ON SITUATION IN SOUTH

NC101931 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 10 Apr 80 NC

[Text] Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus summoned at 1800 today U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon John Gunther Dean. Following the 30-minute meeting, Minister Butrus said: I summoned the U.S. ambassador to inform him of some points and matters connected with South Lebanon and of the government's view and attitude toward the recent Israeli occupation. I have nothing further to say at present.

Asked about the government's attitude toward the current developments in the south, Foreign Minister Butrus said: I held extensive contacts today, particularly with the head of the Lebanese permanent mission to the United Nations. As a result of these contacts, I can say that the recent developments in the south are not reassuring because they constitute a blatant deterioration of the situation and a violation of the Security Council resolutions and Lebanon's sovereignty, which in my view threatens the future of the UN forces and their ability to play the minimum role expected from them in the south.

Thus, Minister Butrus said, Lebanon's UN delegate, in accordance with instructions from the government, has continued his contacts with the UN Secretary General and his senior aides, with the president of the Security Council and with the Tunisian delegate in his capacity as chairman of the Arab group at the United Nations.

Butrus Statement

NC102033 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 10 Apr 80 NC

[Report on Lebanese Foreign Minister Butrus' 10 April remarks to reporters following his meeting with U.S. Ambassador Dean]

[Excerpt] Minister Butrus said Ambassador to the UN Tuwayni has asked for an urgent meeting of the Arab group in New York in order to acquaint it with the latest developments and the stand of the Lebanese Government and to ask the group support with all its available potential the measures which the Lebanese Government is intending to take. Foremost among these measures, we asked Ambassador Tuwayni to call for the convocation of an urgent session of the UN Security Council to discuss all aspects of the current situation in south Lebanon resulting from the blatant Israeli incursions and what the international community in general and the UN Security Council in particular must do regarding the Israeli maneuvers.

Asked whether it is possible to ascertain the position arising from the current situation in the south, he replied: Our position on the subject of the south and the measures which we are taking have nothing to do with the stand which the United States might take. I am not authorized to declare anything about the U.S. stand.

IRISH COMMANDER: 300 ISRAELI SOLDIERS IN SOUTH

NC101438 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 10 Apr 80 NC

[Text] Speaking to a press delegation that visited the central sector this afternoon, the commander of the Irish contingent in south Lebanon said that the Israeli force which crossed the Lebanese border is estimated at 300 soldiers, backed by vehicles. He added that the Israeli force, which entered Kunin, At-Tiri and Bayt Yahun, has begun erecting fortifications and earth barriers, which means that the force intends to stay in these areas.

Three shells fell in the sea opposite Sidon harbor this morning.

AUTHORITIES MAKE ARRESTS FOLLOWING DISTURBANCES IN HAMAH

JN111104 Doha QNA in Arabic 1050 GMT 11 Apr 80 JN

[Text] Damascus, 11 April--It was stated here today that the Syrian security authorities have arrested several of those who participated in the recent disturbances that took place in the city of Hamah, in the center of Syria. Informed sources pointed out that there are people of various foreign nationalities among those who were detained.

Several weapons and ammunition, in addition to large demoninations of banknotes, were also confiscated from those arrested. These sources added that from the first investigations conducted in regard to these persons showed that they entered the country secretly in order to incite disturbances. The informed sources pointed out that during the coming 24 hours a statement will be issued that will include the names of the detained and the documents to indict them.

VOL: SITUATION IN ALEPPO REMAINS VERY CRITICAL

NC101332 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 10 Apr 80 NC

[Excerpt] The Voice of Lebanon correspondent reports that the situation in north Syria remains very critical. The township of Aleppo has been witnessing disturbances, sniping and explosions since Sunday evening, resulting in scores of people killed or wounded. There is a shortage of foodstuffs in the town and army armored cars have taken over the task of insuring bread supplies, since most of the approaches to the town have been cut off and only the Aleppo-Latakia remains open.

The correspondent adds that Army Major Ibrahim Yusuf, who was one of the elements who had planned the storming of the artillery school, has been found dead; his body and two other bodies were dragged through the streets of Aleppo behind an army tank. Moreover, the township of Hamah has become completely isolated and the sounds of explosions and bursts of gunfire around and inside the town are being heard. In Damascus, leaflets denouncing the authorities have been distributed on behalf of the lawyers association. The police in Al-Marjah Square hastened to seize the leaflets.

ATH-THAWRAH REPORTS DISSOLUTION OF THREE TRADE UNIONS

JN110806 Damascus ATH-THAWRAH in Arabic 10 Apr 80 pp 1, 11 JN

[Text] The cabinet met at 1100 yesterday under Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm. At the meeting, the cabinet studied the current situation of the councils of the doctors, engineers and lawyers trade unions and the deviation of some of their leaderships from the objectives and tasks stipulated by the laws regulating the work of these professions and their trade unions.

After study and debate, the cabinet discovered that in their deviation from their objectives and tasks, these councils violate the provisions of Law No 14 of 1972, Law No 17 of 1973 and Law No 32 of 1974. The cabinet thus decided to dissolve the congresses, councils and provincial councils of the abovementioned trade unions.

AL-ASAD APPOINTS NEW MEMBERS TO PROGRESSIVE FRONT

JN102026 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 10 Apr 80 JN

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad issued Decree No. 15 dated 10 April 1980 appointing 'Izz ad-Din Nasir, president of the General Federation of Trade Unions, and Mustafa al-'Ayid, president of the Syrian Peasants Federation, as members of the National Progressive Front's Central Command.

'MECHANIZED FORMATION' CARRIES OUT TACTICAL MILITARY EXERCISE

JN101317 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 10 Apr 80 JN

[Excerpt] On the instructions of President Hafiz al-Asad, commander in chief of the army and the armed forces, one of our mechanized formations, in cooperation with the air force, carried out a tactical exercise of repulsing enemy forces trying to penetrate defense lines. The exercise also aimed at establishing favorable conditions for a counteroffensive.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES MESSAGE OF SUPPORT FROM ULEMA

JN101737 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 10 Apr 80 JN

["Text" of cable of support for Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad from the Syrian society of ulema and religious authorities--date not given]

[Text] After discussing the general situation in the country, the ulema and religious authorities who are holding their ordinary conference at the conference hall of the (Dinqiz) mosque in Damascus, express support for your excellency's wise and courageous measures on the local and international levels to confront the terrible conspiracy against Arabism and Islam and place themselves at your disposal to carry arms to defend the homeland, the creed and the noble values against all conspirators.

Your excellency, we who have inherited from the prophets and apostles the mission to guide and counsel, call on all believers in God, whether they are Muslims or Christians, to be up to the level of this faith when protecting the rights of their nation, homeland and their leader and to reveal the schemes of the conspirators. Faith in God and conspiracy can never go together in the heart of any citizen. We continue to support your government's measures to protect the country and the citizens from the conspirators who are implementing world imperialist conspiracies.

We ask God to guide your steps for what is good and to protect you as the leader and pioneer of this nation, its pride and the protector of the homeland.

AFGHAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES 10 APR

JN101950 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 10 Apr 80 JN

[Text] Afghan Minister of Foreign Affairs Shah Muhammad Dost arrived in Damascus from Beirut this afternoon on a visit to Syria.

The Afghan foreign minister has stated that he will deliver a message to President Hafiz al-Asad from Babrak Karmal, head of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister. He added that he will discuss with Syrian officials relations of cooperation between the two countries, relations which are characterized by amity and friendship, and said that this visit will positively influence the strengthening of relations that exist between them.

The Afghan foreign minister said that there is good cooperation between Syria and Afghanistan in international forums. He added: We have identical viewpoints on several international issues. I am confident that my short visit to Syria will help to strengthen relations of friendship between our two peoples and countries.

CUBAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES 10 APR

JN102013 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 10 Apr 80 JN

[Text] Cuban Foreign Relations Minister Isidoro Octavio Malmierca arrived in Damascus from Baghdad this evening on a visit to Syria that will last for several days. This visit is part of a tour of the area during which he visited India, Pakistan and Iraq.

In a statement to the SANA correspondent on arrival at Damascus international airport, the Cuban minister stated that he will deliver a written message to President Hafiz al-Asad from Cuban President Fidel Castro on Cuba's efforts to seek a political and peaceful solution to the tense situation in southwest Asia in its capacity as head of the non-aligned movement. The Cuban minister added: I avail myself of this opportunity to exchange viewpoints with the Syrian officials on the world situation in general and the non-aligned movement's activities in the next stage. The Cuban foreign minister added: This visit is part of several visits I am making within the framework of Cuba's efforts in this stage. The Cuban minister concluded by saying that after his visit to Syria, he will leave for Libya and Algeria for the same purpose.

The Cuban minister was welcomed at the airport by Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs; Dr Riyad Siyaj, head of the American Continent Department at the Foreign Ministry; the director of protocol; the Cuban charge d'affaires in Damascus; and the ambassadors of socialist countries accredited to Syria.

BA'ATH PARTY OFFICIAL RECEIVES GDR DELEGATION

JN102058 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 10 Apr 80 JN

[Text] Comrade Sa'id Hammadah, Ba'ath Party Regional Command member, head of the educational affairs office and supervisor of the Ba'ath Party's vanguards office, received at the regional command building this evening Comrade (Hans Bagniew), member of the Central Committee of the party and head of the youth department of the GDR Council of Ministers, and the delegation accompanying him.

Comrade Hammadah welcomed the guest delegation and spoke about the role of education in forming a new generation that will be capable of shouldering its responsibilities at this stage.

He then reviewed the current political situation and Syria's principled stand on the imperialist-Zionist-As-Sadat scheme, Syria's confrontation of the fierce onslaught and its shouldering of the responsibility against pan-Arab struggle, a responsibility which stems from the Ba'ath Party's strategy calling for the need to liberate the entire occupied Arab territories, regain the Palestinian People's rights and foil the Camp David conspiracy and all the defeatist stands that have resulted from it.

AL-ASAD MEETS ALGERIAN FLN DELEGATION 11 APR

JN110911 Damascus AL-BA'TH in Arabic 10 Apr 80 p 1 JN

[Excerpt] Damascus--At 1200 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received the delegation representing the Algerian National Liberation Front [FLN] Party, under brother 'Affan Jilali, FLN Political Bureau member.

The delegation comprises the following FLN Central Committee members: Ali Ben Mohamed, Hasnawi al-Khalidi, Omar Saraj and Saleh Ka'wan.

Comrade Tawfiq Salihah, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command member, and Algerian charges d'affaires Mohamed Abbad attended the meeting.

Their discussion centered on the cooperative relations between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Algerian FLN and the ties of the common struggle that Syria and Algeria are waging, particularly within the framework of the pan-Arab front for steadfastness and confrontation, to defend the Arab nations' dignity and rights and to abort the plots directed against the nation by Zionism, imperialism and their agents.

Syria and Algeria affirmed their determination to further develop relations between them in all fields, in order to bolster the Arab nation's steadfastness and its ability to confront and abort hostile schemes.

BA'TH OFFICIAL RECEIVES YUGOSLAV COMMUNIST LEAGUE DELEGATION

JN092030 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 9 Apr 80 JN

[Text] Damascus--Comrade Fawwaz Sayyagh, Ba'th Party National Command member and director of the foreign relations office, received here this evening the delegation of the Yugoslav party delegation under Comrade Andrej Marinc, member of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia [LCY], which is visiting the country at the National Command's invitation.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed the strong relations between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the LCY. They also reviewed issues of common interest to the two parties.

The two sides discussed political developments, particularly the situation in the Arab area, the U.S. imperialist role and the attempts to instigate crises and to create new hotbeds in the Middle East, and the conspiratorial role of the Camp David parties against the Arab people. They then reviewed the nonaligned movement's role, especially following the convocation of the movement's sixth conference, which was held in Havana last year.

The LCY delegation under Comrade Andrej Marinc visited the liberated city of Al-Qunaytirah and became acquainted with the crimes committed by the Zionist enemy in destroying the city.

The head of the LCY delegation said that he was deeply impressed by what he saw in the city. He stressed his country's unreserved solidarity with the Syrian and Palestinian Arab peoples. He condemned this brutal crime and said: This inhuman crime is unprecedented in modern history.

Meet Al-Asad

JN101835 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 10 Apr 80 JN

[Text] At 1330 today, his excellency President Hafiz al-Asad received the delegation of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia [LCY], under Comrade Andrej Marinc, member of the LCY Central Committee. The meeting was attended by Comrade Dr Fadil al-'Ansari, Ba'th Party National Command member, and Yugoslavia's Ambassador to Syria Dimitar Janevsky. His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad welcomed the members of the delegation.

Comrade Marinc expressed satisfaction with the results of the party talks the LCY had held, talks which were comprehensive and fruitful. He also praised the construction work and development underway in Syria despite the burdens of the struggle and the requisites for strengthening steadfastness against the enemies.

Discussion focused on relations of friendship and cooperation that exist between Syria and Yugoslavia and the desire to strengthen these relations, the situation in the Middle East and Europe and the international situation in general.

His excellency President Hafiz al-Asad explained the hostile stand against the Arabs which U.S. policy is adopting and which is at the base of the Camp David conspiracy. His excellency the president expressed the Syrian Arab people's respect for Yugoslavia and praised its role in support of the Arab people's struggle and the great role President Tito played in this respect.

At the end, President Hafiz al-Asad asked Comrade Marinc to convey his greetings and that of the Syrian people to the Yugoslav leaders, with President Tito at their head, and to the friendly Yugoslav people.

At 1230 today, Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Ba'th Party assistant secretary general, received the LCY delegation under Andrej Marinc. The meeting was attended by Comrade Dr Fawwaz Sayyagh, Ba'th Party National Command member and head of the foreign relations office, and the Yugoslav ambassador in Damascus.

The Ba'th Party secretary general and his guest reviewed the relations between the two countries and parties and ways to strengthen these relations in the interest of the two parties and the two friendly peoples.

Al-Ahmar spoke about the current developments in the Arab area and the Syrian Arab role in confronting imperialist schemes and those concocted by the Camp David parties and their reactionary agents, who are working in accordance with the Camp David parties' plans and are financed by them.

Al-Ahmar also reviewed the nonaligned movement's role and the responsibilities it is shouldering, particularly in the wake of the Havana nonaligned conference and the political developments that had occurred in many parts of the world. Al-Ahmar stressed that Syria will always remain committed to the nonaligned movement's basic principles on which Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Josip Broz Tito had agreed and which consolidate the struggle against imperialism, Zionism and their allies.

Comrade Marinc stressed Yugoslavia's desire to strengthen relations with the Syrian Arab Republic in all fields and said that Yugoslavia will continue its constant stand in support of Syria and the Arab nation in their confrontation of the imperialist conspiracies and the triumph of the just Arab cause.

ALGERIA

ENERGY MINISTER COMMENTS ON GAS SALES, PRICES

LD102224 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 10 Apr 80 LD

[Text] The American parliamentary delegation which has been staying in Algiers since Tuesday is continuing its contacts. After being received by officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the minister of planning and members of the People's National Assembly yesterday, the American delegation this morning held talks with Mr Belkacem Nabi, minister of energy and petrochemical industry. The energy minister then held a press conference. [Name indistinct] gives us the details of that conference.

Mr Belkacem Nabi, member of the Central Committee and minister of energy and the petrochemical industry, this morning held a press conference at his ministerial departmental headquarters. During the press conference, to which the national and international press were invited, Mr Nabi made Algeria's position known, stating: [begin recording]

We are open to debate, but if we are open to debate and negotiation, we are uncompromising as far as principles are concerned. The Algerian people, Algerian citizens, will never agree to Algerian gas earning less for Algeria than Abu Dhabi's gas earns for the Arab Emirates, than Canadian gas earns for Canada, than Mexican gas earns for Mexico, than Indonesian gas earns for Indonesia. We see absolutely no reason. Rather, we see every reason for Algerian gas earning more than in Abu Dhabi, Indonesia, Canada and Mexico. And one of the reasons, about which I spoke to you a short while ago, is that we paid a higher price to establish a pilot factor [words indistinct] [end recording]

LIBYA

SYRIAN, PDRY, PLO DELEGATES ARRIVE FOR CONFERENCE

LD101548 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 10 Apr 80 LD

[Text] Tripoli--'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Salim Salih Muhammad, candidate member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister of the PDRY; and 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, PLO spokesman, arrived this evening in Tripoli to take part in the meetings of the conference of the foreign ministers of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, which begins its work today in Tripoli.

STEADFASTNESS FRONT CONFERENCE BEGINS IN TRIPOLI

LD102031 Tripoli JANA in English 1830 GMT 10 Apr 80 LD

[Text] Tripoli, April 10, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The ministerial conference of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front countries started its work in the Foreign Secretariat headquarters in Tripoli today. Member states taking part include the Jamahiriya, Algeria, Syria, South Yemen and the P.L.O.

The foreign secretary said in his opening speech that this conference, taking place following the concessions made by the defeated Egyptian regime, constitutes a practical reply to the treachery which is rejected by the Arab nation and a reply to the steps taken by U.S. imperialism and the new (Israeli)-Egyptian alliance. He said that what the defeated president has done will not go by unpunished. He added that the Arab nation which rejects capitulation and defeat is determined to achieve liberation through struggle.

The Arab nation was able to prove to the world that it refuses capitulation, treachery and shame. It also proved that it is determined to fight, regardless of the size of the imperialist conspiracies, and the strength of the enemy, until Palestine and all the rest of the Arab territories are liberated.

The Arab nation is capable of overcoming obstacles and of steadfastness and confrontation, he added. The foreign secretary referred to Baghdad conference and its resolutions which have constituted an earlier reply to these conspiracies. He stressed that had it not been for the steadfastness front, these resolutions would have never been passed.

AMBASSADOR INTERVIEWED ON GULF ISLANDS, IRAN RELATIONS

LD080334 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Apr 80 LD

[Text] In an interview with PARS, the Libyan ambassador in Iran commented on Iranian-Libyan relations, the outlook for relations between the two countries and the economic future of Iran and Libya following the victory of the Islamic revolution of Iran. In this interview, the Libyan ambassador, commenting on the Iraqi foreign minister's remarks regarding Iranian sovereignty over the three islands--Lesser Tunb, Greater Tunb and Abu-Musa--in the Persian Gulf, said: The raising of such issues can only benefit the enemies of Islam, world imperialism and the colonialists.

At the outset of this interview, he pointed out that the Libyan Embassy in the Islamic Republic of Iran was opened about the time of the Iranian New Year and that the two countries' relations are continuing at the embassy level at present. The ambassadors will soon present his credentials to the Iranian authorities.

Continuing his remarks to PARS, the Libyan ambassador emphasized that the relations existing between Iran and Libya are very cordial and effort will be made to make them exemplary and reflect the understanding between the Iranian and Libyan nations.

He added: At present about half a million foreign workers are working in Libya and following the victory of the Iranian Islamic Revolution brother Al-Qadhdhafi has expressed the desire for Iranian experts, too, to participate in the construction of the new Libya. Iranian workers and experts are Muslims and are regarded as our brothers in religion; we will properly welcome them in Libya.

Continuing his PARS interview, the Libyan ambassador pointed out: The Libyan press, radio and television, in their news and other programs, spare no effort in order to introduce the Islamic revolution of Iran. When the Muslim student followers of the imam's policy occupied the U.S. Embassy, the Libyan press--more than any other country's--published material on it.

The Libyan ambassador added: We are pleased by the establishment of diplomatic relations with Iran. Imam Khomeyni is not only the leader of Iran, but is the leader of all the Muslims of the world. Iran and Libya are like one country and we regard any form of aggression against Iran and the Iranian Revolution as aggression against our own country.

The Libyan ambassador thanked the Foreign Ministry, especially its protocol department, in connection with the opening of the Libyan embassy and said: Previously, Egypt, Syria and Libya had a common flag, but after Anwar As-Sadat's great crime, the Libyan people set this flag on fire. Since then they have chosen a piece of (?green) cloth as their country's flag, free of all formalities; later the words "God is great" and "there is no God but God" were added.

He concluded: I do not consider myself an ambassador but as a struggler in the Islamic revolution.

CHAD OFFICIAL EXPRESSES GRATITUDE FOR LIBYAN SUPPORT

LD101320 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 10 Apr 80 LD

[Text] Mahamat Nour Adam, secretary general of the Chad Government led by Oueddei Goukouni, underlined his government's determination to put an end to the armed rebellion in Chad led by Hissein Habre and backed by the imperialist states and the reactionary forces in Chad. The Chad Government secretary general expressed the gratitude of the people of Chad to the Libyan Arab people for backing them and constantly standing by them in their struggle for freedom and the establishment of peace in Chad. He explained that the Chad Government categorically rejects any conference for reconciliation in Chad other than the Lagos conference. He said that his visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya is aimed at conveying the latest developments of the situation in Chad and the consequences arising from the rebellion of the traitor Hissein Habre. Mahamat Nour Adam, who arrived in Tripoli today, has conferred with the foreign secretary.

PRESS RELEASE ISSUED ON AFGHAN MINISTER'S VISIT

LD110138 Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 10 Apr 80 LD

[Text] A press release was published Thursday in Tripoli and Kabul on the visit of Shah Mohamed Dost, foreign minister of Afghanistan, to Libya. The press release stresses the strong ties linking the two countries and condemns the use of Islam by colonialism, and particularly the United States and reaction, as a screen for carrying out their schemes and imposing their hegemony on the Islamic world and for diverting its attention from the basic question in Palestine, a matter that is at variance with true Islam.

The two sides condemn the Stables David agreements, which are a conspiracy against the Palestinian problem, and all capitulatory moves aimed at doing away with this problem. They both expressed support for the struggle of the Palestinian people for the recovery of their usurped homeland and the setting up of their own independent state on all their national territory. They reaffirm their backing for the just struggle of the Saharan people for self-determination.

MAURITANIA

INTERIOR MINISTER SAYS ACTIVISTS TO BE PROSECUTED

AB111045 Nouakchott CHAAB in French 2 Apr 80 p 1, 8 AB

[Excerpt] Maj Moulaye Ould Boukhreiss, member of the Military Committee of National Salvation and minister of interior, yesterday made an important statement during which he severely criticized all the troublemakers who have been trying to sow seeds of subversion and announced that a group of activists will soon be prosecuted. He said that these activists, who have been engaged in sabotage activities for many years now, have been discovered thanks to the vigilance of the services concerned and the determination of the Military Committee of National Salvation and the government to safeguard both internal and external peace.

The minister said: Dear compatriots, the time of faint-heartedness is now over. The law will be applied with all the necessary rigor against anyone who violates it. The pardon often granted by the state must be considered a sign of magnanimity and not of weakness.

SUDAN

FOREIGN MINISTRY DENIES SENDING WEAPONS TO CHAD

JN101546 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 Apr 80 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 10 April--The Sudanese Foreign Ministry has categorically denied reports by some foreign information circles that Sudan is sending weapons to Chad.

In a statement issued today, the Foreign Ministry said that Sudan cannot accept a situation in which either itself or anyone else sends arms which would increase sedition in that fraternal country, which needs peace and stability in order to turn to issues of progress and construction. The statement added that the principle of noninterference in other states' affairs is one of the basic principles of Sudan's foreign policy.

The statement said that Sudan has been calling on the sons of Chad to remedy the problem since it began by [word indistinct] to block the road against all forms of foreign intervention. Sudan has always called on all the states [words indistinct] interfere in the domestic affairs of Chad.

The statement also referred to the praise for Sudanese efforts in this field by the Chadian parties and the Organization of African Unity.

BEGIN ON ADDRESSING EGYPTIAN PARLIAMENT, LEBANON, SETTLEMENTS

Jerusalem TV Interview

TA102009 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 10 Apr 80 TA

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin said that he would accept President as-Sadat's invitation to appear before the Egyptian Parliament in Cairo if he receives a formal invitation. Nevertheless, Mr Begin did not commit himself to agree to President as-Sadat's request to speak again before the Knesset in Jerusalem. Our correspondent Yoram Ronen spoke today with the prime minister: [Begin videotape]

[Question] Mr Prime Minister: President as-Sadat has again expressed his wish to speak to the Knesset on the issue of the autonomy. Nevertheless, he said that he was ready to invite you to speak to the Egyptian Parliament. Will you permit President as-Sadat to speak before the Knesset?

[Answer] The issue is not one of permission, but one of invitation. Since he has already spoken in the Knesset and he promised me that the principle of reciprocity will prevail, I am awaiting his invitation--not through the television or the radio, but in a direct manner. We have met many times in a friendly and understanding manner, especially in the last meetings which were very cordial on his part as well as on my part, in a mutual way. I will willingly speak before the People's Assembly. However, this is not at all related to a second appearance of President as-Sadat before the Knesset.

[Question] That is to say, even if you were to speak before the People's Assembly in Cairo this would not mean that president as-Sadat will be asked to speak before the Knesset.

[Answer] That question will be discussed in due time. What I clearly state today is that since this problem has been raised I am expecting the fulfillment of the promise about reciprocity. President as-Sadat has spoken to the Knesset, I have to speak before the People's Assembly in accordance with his own promise. When he invited me--as I stated, in a direct manner--I will indeed consider this. I do not see why I should refuse. I will willingly visit Cairo for a second time, I will willingly speak to the members of Parliament and from that podium to the entire Egyptian people.

[Question] We are close to the end, Mr Prime Minister. Reports have been published that an IDF force is presently inside Lebanon. The commander of the northern command said that political means have prevented an Israeli operation in Lebanon in the last few months...

[Begin--interrupting] I cannot see the connection between this question and my visit to Cairo or of President as-Sadat's to Jerusalem. However, regarding the announcement made by the commander of the northern command, this will be handled by the Defense Minister. On reports that an IDF force invaded Lebanon--we honor Lebanon's territorial integrity, we want peace with and inside Lebanon. We only want to prevent our blood from being shed as was the case on the seventh day of Passover.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, thank you very much. [end videotape]

Remarks to U.S. Network

TA101420 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 10 Apr 80 TA

[Text] Menahem Begin said that settlement in the territories is our prerogative, our duty and an integral part of our national security. In an interview with the U.S. television network ABC the prime minister said that he was waiting for a formal invitation to speak before the Egyptian Parliament in Cairo similar to the invitation he himself sent to President as-Sadat 3 years ago. Menahem Begin added that, in his opinion, we should not give away more than what was agreed upon at Camp David. We want to continue the autonomy talks, but only within the framework of the Camp David accords.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT REVIEWS MINISTERS' POSITION ON SETTLEMENTS

TA111047 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 11 Apr 80 p 4 Weekend Supplement TA

[By Arye Tzimuqi]

[Text] Several hawkish Cabinet ministers--Shamir, Hurvitz, Burg, Hammer and Shostak--caused somewhat of a surprise this week when they joined Yadin and Ehrlich in saying that on a specific military issue, such as the reaction to the murderous crime at Misgav 'Am on the last day of Passover, political considerations should be taken into account, particularly Begin's trip to Washington and its timing.

It is clear that the position of these ministers had a decisive impact on the results of the consultations on several security issues conducted this week. Another surprise in the debates was the opinion of Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman, which was closer to that of Begin and Sharon, who have had different thoughts.

The reference to the prime minister's impending trip to Washington explains the anger of several ministers upon reading a report on preparations for the establishment of two new settlements near Jericho, precisely on the eve of the trip. They claimed that the decision to establish those settlements had indeed been made a long time ago. However, it would have been better to delay its execution for a more suitable time, since it is clear that we should not expect any support--not even minimal--from any non-Jewish elements on the issue of settlements. Since Arik Sharon is responsible for implementing the government's decisions on settlements, the only person who could have postponed the work in the vicinity of Jericho was the prime minister, but Mr Begin did not do that. The close cooperation between Sharon and Begin--mainly on the settlements but also on other political and security issues--has already been noted by government circles.

The Cabinet is presently arguing about the question: Would it not be worthwhile for Israel to announce its readiness to freeze the settlements as a gesture of good will a least a period of 6 to 7 weeks, namely, from the date of Begin's visit to Washington until after the "target date" of 26 May?

Ministers Weizman, Yadin and Ehrlich thought that Israel could indeed "afford" making such a gesture, primarily because this would not imply a diversion from the government's declared policy and since this would produce a more comfortable atmosphere for the important political discussions.

Begin and Sharon, obviously, outrightly reject this position. In their opinion, no compromise or gesture should be made primarily on the issue of settlements, since this would "call for" future pressures on the issue.

The moderate ministers also claim that it would have been better had Israel announced its agreement to establish a joint security committee with Egypt--which is in accordance with the Camp David accords--and thus reply to As-Sadat's request and not to the appeal that is certain to come from President Carter. As opposed to this, Begin and Sharon expressed firm opposition to the establishment of a joint security committee.

Weizman tends to agree to expanding the authority of the autonomy institutions while reminding his fellow ministers that reference is made in the Camp David accords to "full autonomy" and emphasis is put on the word "full."

The "dovish" ministers are also ready to meet As-Sadat halfway and announce Israel's readiness to implement the autonomy in Gaza first once the autonomy talks are over. However, for their own reasons, Begin and other Cabinet members are opposed to separating Gaza from West Bank, even regarding the implementation of the autonomy. They are "corroborated" in their position by Knesset member Moshe Dayan.

In his last meeting with President Carter Dayan expressed his firm opposition to implementing the autonomy in Gaza first, claiming that such a move would put the inhabitants of the Gaza Strip in an embarrassing position. It should be recalled that Dayan has been insistently and vehemently opposed to making any gestures to the inhabitants of Gaza or Al-'Arish, thus differing with Weizman. Dayan claimed that the "system of gestures" should not be instituted in our relations with Egypt and that these relations should be based on the principle of reciprocity.

BURG SAYS HE HAS NO DETAILS ON TRIPARTITE SUMMIT PROPOSAL

TA101827 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 10 Apr 80 TA

[Chairman of the Israeli Autonomy Committee, Interior Minister Dr Yosef Burg interviewed by Nancy Goodwin in Tel Aviv on 10 April--recorded]

[Text] [Burg] I am always prepared [to participate in a tripartite meeting]. It's a free world. Everyone can suggest whatever he wants to suggest, but I didn't hear anything that could be more exact than what you tell me. I could say only that in Washington, during our visit next week, Prime Minister Begin, Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Shamir and myself, perhaps this matter can be dealt with. For the moment I don't know anything about any formal, nonformal, official or nonofficial invitation.

[Question] Would you be willing to go to such a summit?

[Answer] It depends. I believe that, if, in Washington, there will be certain things understood in mutual understanding, then I would say that we can surely proceed and, perhaps, succeed.

[Question] Do you think, further, that it is realistically possible to get the autonomy negotiations wrapped up by 26 May. And if so, what are the advantages to Israel, if we do?

[Answer] First of all, I would say that things that can be done easily and speedily should be done in this way. But, the other way around, I don't believe that until 26 May [as heard] it will be able to come to a more detailed description of powers and responsibilities. But I believe that certain heads of agreement [as heard] surely can be reached.

AUTONOMY WORKING GROUPS END ROUND OF DISCUSSIONS

TA101926 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1830 GMT 10 Apr 80 TA

[Text] Jerusalem, 10 Apr--The working groups on autonomy today completed 2 days of discussions. The working groups reached full agreement regarding freedom of speech during the elections to the autonomy institutions. For 2 days the committee held discussions on the duties and the authority [of the autonomy] and on the issue of elections. The ad hoc committee for economic affairs met for the first time during the current round of discussions. However, the working group on legal and legislative issues has not yet convened since the Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs is now in the United States and could not meet with his Israeli counterpart.

Nevertheless, Justice Minister Shmuel Tamir received the legal adviser of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry, Ambassador Tahir Shash, in his office. The steering committee to the autonomy groups headed by the director general of the Interior Ministry, Dr Hayim Rubersky, set the schedule for the meetings to be held within 2 weeks. The working groups will not convene next week. They will meet again after independence day [21 April].

It should be pointed out that the Egyptian delegation was composed of four ambassadors, headed by Ambassador 'Abd al-Lafit. The members of the Egyptian delegation will depart from Israel at the beginning of next week aboard regular commercial flights.

WEIZMAN COMMENTS ON ANTITERRORIST MEASURES

TAL10858 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0635 GMT 11 Apr 80 TA

[Excerpt of interview with Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman by IDF radio commander Tzevi Shapira and BAMAHAHEH editor Yosef Eshkol on 10 April, place not given--recorded]

[Question] What is our answer to what happened at Misgav 'Am this week? How can we prevent such actions in the future?

[Answer] I would like to say a few words here in a much more inclusive way. The subject of Misgav 'Am is, regretfully, part of a 30-year chain. The war between us and the terrorists is not a war that began yesterday, nor did it begin 10 or 15 years ago. The Northern Command commander was right when he said that we are subjected to outside political limitations. This is correct. I myself say this to my colleagues on the General Staff from time to time. The army has to be a vital, strong body with initiative, which comes up with professional demands to take various actions, and the politicians must know the whole picture and decide yes or no.

[Question] What are the political limitations?

[Answer] We are now perhaps seeking some way that is different from the way we have been going for the last 12 years. Which has not prevented Ma'alot, Nahariya, the coast highway, Misgav 'Am or Bet-She'an, when we did make numerous attacks. The fact is that last year we prevented strikes. I repeat: I would be a happy man, and in Misgav 'Am they would be most happy if we had prevented Misgav 'Am, too. I recommend at this difficult and complex hour, that we take care lest the blood rise too high in the head. The most difficult hours involve those right and suitable considerations particularly in such situations, without jumping to hasty conclusions of one kind or another, especially by people who are not saddled with the responsibility.

[Question] The forces that have now entered southern Lebanon in several places, are they preparing for a lengthy stay in those places?

[Answer] They are preparing to remain there for exactly that period of time that we shall deem appropriate.

[Question] Is this the beginning of some new method for checking penetration of terrorists?

[Answer] The IDF has been seeking methods throughout its existence. Call it a new or an old method; we positioned a number of forces inside Lebanon, first to ease the life of all those settlements--to remind you, Misgav 'Am is on the border, and Ramot Naftali, Manara [Ramin] and so forth. We have no intention of staying permanently in Lebanon. We would like to leave Lebanon. We wish we could reach a state of affairs in Lebanon as we have with Egypt.

MAJOR GENERAL BEN-GAL DISCUSSES ATTACK ON MISGAV 'AM

TAL101035 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 10 Apr 80 pp 1, 2 TA

[By Mikha'eli Garti]

[Text] Despite the clear advantages of a combination of antiterrorist offensive actions and defensive actions along the border, no such actions have been carried out by the Northern Command for over 6 months due to political restrictions. This was said by Major General Ben-Gal, the commander of the Northern Command, in an interview with HA'ARETZ yesterday.

Maj Gen Avigdor Ben-Gal explained that safeguarding the northern border by defensive activity only--including an obstacle zone of mines and electronic fences combined with patrols which, following an order, can direct massive fire in the direction of any intrusion into the zone--is not the answer to every terrorist penetration.

The advantages of initiating offensive activity against the terrorists are that the location and timing of the activity are decided by our forces. In addition, the commander of the Northern Command explained that such activity, if carried out frequently and combined with defensive activity, would have made the terrorists invest tangible and psychological efforts in the sphere of defense, the same sphere in which most of the efforts of the northern security forces have recently been made. According to Major General Ben-Gal, these activities could have diminished the terrorists' ability to strike at Israel.

The commander of the Northern Command, who praised the behavior of the members of Misgav 'Am during the terrorist attack on Monday, called on all residents along the northern border to follow existing instructions and carry arms wherever they go. According to him, carrying arms is one of the most efficient means of defense against terrorists when they succeed in getting through the fence that cannot be "100 percent sealed off."

Asked why the instruction on carrying arms is not meticulously followed--as was revealed in the Misgav 'Am incident--the commander of the Northern Command said one of the reasons may be the residents' boredom about hearing numerous warnings about expected terrorist acts. "I would not define this as complacency but as exhaustion," the major general said.

Major General Ben-Gal emphasized the large success scored by the security system on the northern border. In contrast to two terrorist entries in which residents of Nahariya and Misgav 'Am were hurt (although the terrorists were liquidated in these incidents), there have been 16 cases over the last 2 years in which the terrorists were stopped and killed or captured as a result of the patrols and the other security measures.

Major General Ben-Gal confirmed that at Misgav 'Am a failure occurred in the electronic fence and thus no warning was received about the terrorists' infiltration, according to Major General Ben-Gal, an IDF technical investigatory committee is now looking into the incident and the results of the investigation are being awaited. Major General Ben-Gal noted that all checks did not indicate any negligence by the soldiers or officers responsible for the defense system and a technical failure only is the issue.

The commander of the Northern Command made it clear that he approved the abortive night rescue operation (which preceded the successful breakthrough that took place at 1000). The decision was a result of the policy of not allowing the terrorists to organize a defense of the building. The decision was also based on reports that the terrorists were holding only two children, whose fate had already been in question due to shots heard from the building. The attack failed when one of the force's commanders was critically wounded in addition to other casualties inflicted on the force, including Eliyahu Tzafrir who was killed during this abortive attack.

Defense Ministry Clarification

TA101040 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 10 Apr 80 TA

[Text] The Defense Ministry spokesman says that the statement made this morning by the commander of the Northern Command regarding the political limitations that had prevented the terrorists from being attacked in their bases pertained to outside political elements.

It was these outside political factors that caused, in Major General Ben-Gal's opinion, the political limitations. The Defense Ministry spokesman says the Northern Command commander did not mean to imply that there had been internal political limitations on an action against the terrorists.

In the wak of Major Ben-Gal's HA'ARETZ interview, Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman requested that he be instructed to limit himself as of now to addressing only those issues which come under his direct authority. Our correspondent Meron Tzur explains that General Ben-Gal's statements this morning apparently caused strong reactions in the Defense Ministry because they could be interpreted as pertaining to political factors in Israel which prevented the terrorist bases from being raided.

REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON IDF DEPLOYMENT IN S. LEBANON

UNIFIL Spokesman

TA101917 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 10 Apr 80 TA

[UNIFIL spokesman (Timor Gottsel) interviewed by Jerry Cheslow, site not indicated, on 10 April--recorded]

[Text] [(Gottsel)] At present, the Israeli troops are in only one part of the UNIFIL area, that is in the Irish battalion area, in the vicinity of the village of Kunin, where there are no UNIFIL positions. The latest report that we have says that there are nine Israeli armoured personnel carriers. They are going on short patrols, local patrols, and there is some defensive construction work going on at the moment in that area.

[Question] How many Israeli soldiers are in that area now?

[Answer] Well, in the Irish battalion area there are about 110 Israeli defense forces personnel. There are varying between 5 and 10 assorted sophisticated vehicles and this morning there was a bulldozer, but later that bulldozer withdrew. This is the total of the size of the force in the UNIFIL area at this time.

[Question] What about in other areas of south Lebanon?

[Answer] In those areas that we have been able to observe in the vicinity of Shaghura, there are six armored personnel carriers and approximately 48 personnel. They have dug in there also, they have dug some fox holes. All the armored personnel carriers are armed with light and heavy machineguns and one of them has a mortar mounted upon it.

In the main concentration area up to now--that is the general area west of Markabah in the Lebanese territory--this is where the heaviest concentration is. The tanks have pulled up to the border, as reported to us, to the Israeli border area, but now they are replaced by 12 armored personnel carriers with approximately 150 men. Here there is some construction more than in other positions, because, there are two bulldozers working here, the unit is grouped into three spots in the same general area, they are building linkage between these spots.

[Question] UNIFIL has lodged a strong protest with the IDF over Israeli units in the Irish UNIFIL area. But where does the matter stand now?

[Answer] Naturally, the follow-up of lodging a protest is negotiations, so it will be safe to assume that these are going on.

DAVAR Report

TA111012 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 11 Apr 80 p 1 TA

[By Yona Shimshi, DAVAR military correspondent]

[Excerpt] Yesterday, the IDF units that have entered southern Lebanon to take up observation points and to patrol the area to prevent further terrorist activity against the northern settlements, continued to dig into their positions a few kilometers from the Israeli border near UNIFIL positions.

The IDF units are now conducting observations and patrolling in the front west of Misgav 'am and in the central front of Major Haddad's enclave, it was reported last night that since they entered southern Lebanese territory, the IDF units have encountered no opposition whatsoever, and they have not been fired on by the terrorists. Military sources have not disclosed how long the units will remain in the free Lebanon territory--the territory of the enclave along the Israeli-Lebanese border.

U.S. Seeks Information

TA101506 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 10 Apr 80 TA

[Text] The United States has asked Israel for clarifications on the IDF operation in southern Lebanon. The U.S. Embassy charge d'affaires, William Brown, conferred with 'Ezer Weizman and asked him for details on the operation. Later he reported the details of the conversation to Washington. Our correspondent Dan Eshel reports that Brown did not request a special meeting with the defense minister. Instead, he went to him while the minister was hosting a Congress budget committee delegation.

Newspaper Reaction

TA110933 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 11 Apr 80 TA

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpt] Most of the papers this morning write about the IDF operation in southern Lebanon.

DAVAR says that perhaps IDF incursions and the seizure of positions in southern Lebanon will temporarily increase security in northern settlements and may also fill the breaches that are left by the UNIFIL forces and Haddad's troops, but excessive friction with UNIFIL and the expansion of the military activities into a large-scale operation might curtail these certain advantages. Eventually, the IDF will have to leave Lebanon. The question is whether it will do this after the international outcry or before it and whether the result will justify the investment.

The Jerusalem POST says the operation was described as meant to create a buffer zone between the areas held by UNIFIL and those controlled by Major Haddad. If this is, indeed, the real objective of the operation, then it should be praised. A temporary action calculated to prevent terrorist penetration is unavoidable. But it should not be presented as the acceptance of an invitation by Major Haddad, who is known, not unfairly, as largely a creation of Israel.

'Al1 Hamishmar discusses the problems of the border settlements in the north. The paper holds that it is the present moral and political tenet to urgently reinforce the settlements, while transferring the focal point from empty slogans and superfluous settlements and frameworks to the real pioneering channel of sinking roots in the Galilee.

HATZOFE is of the opinion that the Northern Command commander's statement that the IDF avoided hitting the terrorists out of political considerations is correct. The tranquillity on the front with the terrorists was misleading, and now the time has come to revert to the former system of preventive activity that will thwart the terrorist moves.

MENGISTU ADDRESSES AFRICAN ECONOMIC COMMISSION SESSION

LD102152 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1612 GMT 9 Apr 80 LD/EA

[Excerpts] The sixth session of the Economic Commission for Africa [ECA] ministerial conference was opened this afternoon at the Africa Hall by Comrade Chairman Haile Mariam Mengistu, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and commander in charge of the revolutionary army. Listeners, we now present Comrade Chairman Mengistu's opening address:

[Begin recording] International economic disorder, lack of justice and magnified economic problems, particularly affecting developing countries, are not accidental, nor are they without cause. They are the results of colonialism, imperialism and neocolonialism. The causes are imbalance in international trade relations and uneven economic development.

It is very hard to imagine that our relations with the imperialists--who always tell us that we are poor and backward, while they themselves are the main cause of our backwardness and poverty--could be based on equality. The only agreements they want to enter into are those which exclusively serve to perpetuate their exploitation.

The developing countries must engage in just negotiations with the industrialized states and the international monetary organization to obtain lower prices for industrial products, particularly oil, the prices of both of which have been soaring at an intolerable rate. Only thus will the developing countries be able to extricate themselves from the grave economic crisis they are in. The price of oil, which has increased by over 1200 percent over the past 10 years, has immensely aggravated the problems of the developing countries which do not produce oil in the areas of foreign exchange reserves and balance of payments.

It is absurd to say that a new international economic order will be created until the developed countries are willing to (?revise) their trade, industrial and investment policies and cooperate in improving the quality and quantity of products they get from the developing countries. There is one important issue which should not be overlooked here. It is the pressure which some countries can exert on us in the name of respecting human rights. When their interests are affected by people's endeavours to march to genuine independence along the path of their own choice, imperialists start disseminating malicious propaganda, claiming that human rights are violated in this or that country.

They do not stop here. They try to make international monetary organizations and similar groups instruments for (?retaliation). Imperialists and their agents, who are (?opposed to) [word indistinct] equality, try to create doubts about the objectives and existence of the United Nations, by crying for human rights so that they can [word indistinct] and be trusted.

There is no doubt that the notion that the developing countries cannot exist without the developed countries is erroneous. There is also no doubt that the unjust use of economic aid for exerting political pressure, and consequently for unbridled economic exploitation, would completely damage the relations between the developed and the developing countries.

The developed countries, which have developed by exploiting others, should note that they are dutybound to take part in the drafting of plans for the industrial development of the developing countries, as well as in the finding of solutions for their other basic problems.

In our opinion, respect for human rights basically means satisfying the needs of people and solving their problems.

What we need is cooperation based on equality and not a negotiated sellout of our independence. We do not want others to take advantage of our problems or to use us as tools for the strengthening of their exploitative and oppressive systems. In this regard, the developing countries stand must be unswerving and firm.

Even though Africa abounds in arable land, its peoples have so far not succeeded in replacing backward farming methods with modern agricultural technology. This fact, coupled with the recent drought in many African countries, has aggravated the longstanding food shortage.

Since agriculture is the economic lifeblood of most African peoples, it is imperative that we find ways to accelerate development in this sphere. We must start today to cure Africa's economic ills by improving cultivated land through the use of modern technology and by cultivating virgin land.

Africa's industrial situation is the same as the agricultural one. Africa is very limited industrially and is not following the correct path to economic development.

The development of industry, besides helping promote trade ties, is essential for a country's overall advancement and for the elimination of unemployment. But at present, when we look at those industries owned by foreign capitalists in a number of African countries, we see that they are not following the correct path and that they are serving the cause of exploitation, rather than development efforts aimed at self-reliance and independence from imported raw materials and technology. If backward countries are to be developed, this imbalance must be rectified.

Regarding trade, we maintain that every effort must be made to establish strong commercial relations between African countries. Strengthening trade links means creating favorable conditions for expanding joint development projects and reducing the unnecessary flow of funds abroad. It also means the creation of a firm foundation for African unity.

Now is the time for Africa to stand up and fight for complete independence and economic justice and against neocolonialism and imperialism. Now is the time for Africa to strike hard at the colonialists and racists, just as it has always done throughout its glorious past. All of our efforts must be directed toward securing technological and industrial development.

Our main task today is to work out the implementation of the agreements we have already reached and the promises we have made. This should get Africa moving on the correct road to development. Africa must solve its own problems and determine the direction of its development. Africa's development will be accelerated only when the continent maps out its own strategy for economic advancement, free from the influence of all oppressing powers. Africa cannot be developed along the lines of an action program laid down by exploiting powers who dictate that Africa's living standards and prosperity must only accord with their own long term planned and coordinated development. We have the responsibility of making our own plans and deciding ourselves on the way we move to development.

Africa should leap forward in its development over the next 10 years. We believe that for this to be done the following steps must be taken:

At the national level: We must fight harder than ever, through a coordinated economic development campaign against drought, hunger and disease which kill so many Africans. Every country should work on its development in order to produce enough food by strengthening and expanding its agricultural sector. Efforts should be made to promote industrial development in parallel with agricultural development. In order to overcome the problem of the lack of skilled manpower, the educational syllabus of African countries should be revised and should be directed toward Africa's economic development, so that we may prevent the situation in which African countries are an instrument of exploitation by others. This means that education should (?prepare) Africans for the development of Africa. These are the tasks to be accomplished at the national level.

On the continental level: Great cooperation is expected of African countries in the field of development. We must note that disunity and disruption of peace in Africa stem from plots hatched by forces bent on perpetuating exploitation and safeguarding their interests.

Today, more than ever, Africans should be united. Of paramount importance are the cooperation and relations between African countries in the fields of trade, transport and communications, tourism, development of fisheries, livestock development, the organization and training of manpower and the establishment of research centers at continental level. These can be achieved and the development of Africa accelerated when weak continental development projects and financial institutions are strengthened and when they start to give satisfactory service. The developed countries and international monetary organizations, which stand only for their own interests and which have plunged the world into a grave situation, would be compelled to help inter-African development projects only when our unity is strengthened. We Africans must stand shoulder to shoulder to intensify the struggle for the main objective--the development of our backward continent.

Our tasks at the international level are no less important. If we are to extricate the developing countries from their grave economic crisis and reduce international tension, then unbalanced trade relations must be rectified and the oil-producing and the industrialized countries should coordinate their wealth and knowledge with the manpower and unexploited natural resources of the developing countries in order to accelerate a balanced economic development.

The oil-producing and the developed countries are dutybound to give grants to the developing countries to alleviate the problems brought about by the soaring price of oil and resulting balance of payments deficits.

Finally, I wish you success in your work. We Africans must stand up and fight for economic justice, which is the pillar of genuine independence. Long live the unity of Africa, founded on justice. Thank you. [lengthy applause] [end recording]

ETHIOPIA

RADIO SAYS SOMALI 'INVADING TROOPS' CAPTURED

LD101936 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 10 Apr 80 LD/EA

[Text] The revolutionary army stationed on our eastern and southern battlefronts recently crushed invading troops of the reactionary Somali Government, which had violated Ethiopia's borders and moved into our country. A large number of Somali troops were captured and many weapons were seized.

The reactionary Somali Government had infiltrated its troops into Bure [in the Bale region of southern Ethiopia] and (Merkalit), 50 and 80 kms respectively from the border, in pursuance of its policy to try to annex parts of neighboring countries in violation of the principles of the OAU and the United Nations. These invading troops were crushed by the revolutionary army.

Our revolutionary army stationed at Uardere, on the eastern front, crushed the invading Somali troops and seized a large number of weapons, medicines and various kinds of military equipment.

Similarly, our revolutionary army stationed at Bure, on the southern front, crushed the reactionary Somali Government's regular army encamped in the area and seized many light and heavy weapons.

Comrade Brig Gen Mulatu Negash, commander of the eastern sector, has given a news conference to a team of journalists which had gone to the area. In his briefing on the situation in the area in general, and on the battle of (Merkalit) in particular, the comrade commander of the eastern sector said: The army of the reactionary Mogadishu ruling class has still not refrained from violating Ethiopia's border and carrying out chauvinist aggression against isolated areas. Our heroic revolutionary army has launched a counteroffensive. The comrade commander said that the Somali troops had made a number of unsuccessful attacks on the Uardere area.

Comrade Brig Gen Mulatu Negash went on to say that members of the revolutionary army had recently gone to areas where the chauvinist Somali Army had launched reactionary operations. Our army had scored great victories by launching coordinated surprise attacks.

The commander of the eastern sector pointed out that one of the victories won recently was in the lighting offensive at (Merkalit). He hailed the morale and revolutionary spirit of the heroic revolutionary army in all its moves to defend the revolution and the unity of the motherland.

Comrade Brig Gen Mulatu Negash said that the troops captured by the reactionary army have confirmed in an interview that the invading detachments, part of the 44th Commando Battalion which had been infiltrated into (Merkalit), have been crushed and have fled in disarray.

Comrade Brig Gen Mulatu Negash said that there had recently been reactionary operations by the troops of the chauvinist Mogadishu ruling class around Uardere and Ual Ual.

He warned that a second invasion by the Somali Government, which has forgotten the historical punishment its invading army suffered at the hands of the Ethiopian broad masses, would lead to a conventional war.

The commander of the eastern sector command pointed out that the revolutionary army stationed on the eastern front is increasingly vigilant and prepared to crush the reactionary aggression. He said that since the Somali broad masses were opposed to Siad Barre's reactionary regime and were intensifying their political and armed struggle, the country's reactionary army had started to come across our border and spread malicious propaganda in order to arrest and alleviate the situation in Somalia. [sentence as heard]

Finally, Comrade Brig Gen Mulatu Negash said the weapons captured by the revolutionary army in the battle it waged at (Merkalit) had been supplied to the Mogadishu ruling class by NATO countries and China.

In a similar briefing, Comrade Capt Zemedu Haile, the commander who led the battle against the Somali regular troops at (Merkalit), said the Somali reactionary army could not stand up to our revolutionary army and was crushed so quickly because it does not understand the cause it is fighting for and does not know why or for whom it is at war.

In reply to questions, the captured troops said that the troops of the Somali ruling class carried out all these invasions against Ethiopia because they were forced to do so at gunpoint. They did not act out of conviction. They revealed that the number of soldiers deserting with their weapons is increasing.

Comrade Col Girma Woldeyes, commander of the southern sector command, told the team of journalists that the revolutionary army had scored a major victory by crushing an entire brigade and a battalion of Siad Barre's army which had infiltrated 50 km over the border. He noted in particular that the recent victory of the revolutionary army stationed in the Bure district of Bale region's (Kere) Province in a 4-day battle against a large and heavily-armed contingent of Siad Barre's troops was evidence of the army's resolve to defend the revolution from subversion and to live up to its pledge to defend the unity of the motherland and to fight to the bitter end for its cause, without swaying from socialist ideology.

In his briefing on the consistent revolutionary steps taken by our revolutionary army against the troops which had recently violated our borders and invaded our country, Comrade Col Girma Woldeyes said that after the attempt by Siad Barre's army to capture strategic points in the area had been foiled by our revolutionary army, the enemy returned with reinforcements. Nevertheless, the revolutionary army managed to crush the force by heightening its morale and by using special combat tactics.

He added that the weapons seized by the revolutionary troops stationed in Bure district had been supplied to Somali by the NATO countries and by Egypt and the reactionary Arab states. We went on to note that although Somalia had received heavy weapons from leading imperialist countries and their puppet governments, successive defeats had become the norm, since the reactionary Somali Army's morale is low and its spirit broken.

Attack Denial

LD101322 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1015 GMT 10 Apr 80 LD/EA

[Text] The embassy of socialist Ethiopia in Brussels, Belgium, has issued a statement vigorously condemning Somalia's recent allegation [as heard] wildly claiming that it had been victim of an Ethiopian attack.

The embassy said in a press statement: The government of socialist Ethiopia strongly rejects recent allegations by Somalia that it was the victim of Ethiopian air raids. The statement dismissed the allegation as absolutely groundless and expressed confidence that the international community, and especially peace-loving nations, will not be deceived by the desperate attempt on the part of Somalia to cover up its expansionist aim and subversive activities.

The statement noted that a popular movement, spearheaded by the Somali salvation front, have [as heard] taken up arms to drive out the Siad Barre regime characterized by tribalism, nepotism and oppression.

The embassy statement accused the fascist Mogadishu regime of continuing sending armed bandits inside Ethiopian territory to destroy lives and property.

The embassy statement went on to say the people and government of socialist Ethiopia are actively engaged in the task of its national reconstruction following the disruption caused by the phantom Somali invasion and reiterated the revolutionary government's consistent policy of good-neighborliness.

The statement concluded: No false propaganda; no amount of subversion and no kind of infiltration will stop Ethiopia in its march towards peace, progress and development.

ERITREAN LEADER AHMAD NASSER SAYS USSR 'DISPLEASED'

LD101530 Kuwait KUNA in English 1213 GMT 10 Apr LD

[Text] Beirut--Ahmad Nasser, a prominent leader of the Eritrean revolutionaries, has said that the Soviet Union is displeased with attempts by its Ethiopian ally to settle the Eritrean problem by military means.

Nasser added that Soviet officials told him during his visit to Moscow that the continuation of the war between the Ethiopian Army and the revolutionaries seeking independence for Eritrea will not resolve the problem but will only further complicate it.

Nasser, who is chairman of the Eritrean Liberation Front-Revolutionary Council was speaking in an interview with the ATH-THAWRAH magazine which the front publishes here. KUNA today obtained the text of this interview which will be published in this month's issue.

In the interview he confirmed reports, saying that he visited Moscow at the end of January and the beginning of February at the head of a delegation of the liberation front in response to an official invitation in the wake of coolness in relations that followed the Soviet Union's backing of the Marxist Ethiopian Government 2 years ago.

He said that the Soviet officials whom he met stressed their support for our peaceful initiative for a democratic solution that would serve the interests of both the Ethiopian and the Eritrean peoples, but they presented no specific solution.

The liberation front--the more powerful of the two Eritrean organizations--had expressed its readiness to enter into peaceful negotiations with Ethiopia with the aim of achieving Eritrea's independence, but the Ethiopian military regime offered only autonomy.

Nasser said that the Soviets, who furnished the Addis Ababa government with weapons, are not satisfied with the Ethiopian methods in Eritrea, based their conviction that these methods are not in the interest of the two peoples.

Replying to a question as to the possibility of the Eritrean struggle being affected by the improvement of relations between Sudan and Ethiopia, he said: A rapid improvement in relations between Sudan and Ethiopia by the normalization of relations will have an effect on the Eritrean revolution. However, he expressed his belief that Sudan takes into consideration our deeplyrooted struggle and our just cause when adopting any step. He added that stability in that region will not be achieved until after our people achieve their national aspirations and that our struggle which actually started since 1943 will not end until our aims of freedom and independence are achieved.

The head of the Eritrean Liberation Front expressed his optimism as to the possibility of removing misunderstanding, the nature of which he did not divulge, that arose between the front and Iraq. He said that Iraq is one of the states which gives us military, political and financial assistance. But there is a misunderstanding at the moment between us, but it is a minor difference. He added that the two sides wish to solve this difference, and I am optimistic as to the possibilities of removing the misunderstanding.

Nasser warned that Ethiopia has massed forces of 130,000 in Eritrea in preparation for the launching of a large-scale offensive in the areas of the revolutionaries during the next rainy season which starts in June. However, he forecast the failure of any such operation and said that we are always prepared to face the Ethiopian large armies, and that this time they will achieve nothing because what they had achieved in the past; namely, the occupation of certain towns situated on the main roads, was the most that could be achieved.

SOMALIA

FRONT REPORTS SUCCESSES AGAINST ETHIOPIAN TROOPS

LD091252 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somali and Abo Liberation Fronts in Somali to Western Somalia 0930 GMT 9 Apr 80 LD/EA

[Text] A report which reached us on 4 April from the battlefield where Somali Abo freedom fighters are fighting the troops of the black Abyssinian colonialist regime says that in a fierce battle at Sodo, in Bale Province, the freedom fighters killed 15 enemy soldiers and wounded many others. They also seized six AK rifles. The freedom fighters lost one hero and four others were wounded.

In another engagement, the Somali Abo freedom fighters launched an attack on Abyssinian soldiers at Bangol, also in Bale region. The freedom fighters burned out [word indistinct], wounded many enemy soldiers and then returned safely to base.

TANZANIA

VICE PRESIDENT ABOUD JUMBE VISITS NORTH KOREA

For Reportage on Tanzanian Vice President Abound Jumbe's Visit to North Korea, see the North Korea section of the 9 April Asia & Pacific DAILY REPORT and subsequent editions.

UGANDA

BINAISA DENIES UNLF PLAN TO BAN POLITICAL PARTIES

LD102019 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 10 Apr 80 LD/EA

[Excerpts] President Binaisa has said the Uganda National Liberation Front [UNLF] government is systematically fulfilling its promises and given a chance it will lead the nation to prosperity. But, he added, that without goodwill, hard work, co-operation and unity of purpose, the (?path) will be difficult.

The president, who was opening (Itaro) hospital in Toror district, as part of the first anniversary of the liberation of Uganda, reiterated that the UNLF government will build more hospitals and do everything possible to prevent diseases rather than cure them.

He refuted allegations that the UNLF government intends to ban political parties. He stressed that the UNLF is only a big umbrella covering all political ideologies for the sake of national unity. The president told the people that the UNLF government and the people of Uganda have no guarantee that the UPC [Uganda People's Congress], if given another chance, will not again ban other political parties. Similarly, he added that the people of Uganda have no guarantees that parties like DP [Democratic Party] and KY [Kabaka Yekka], given the chance, will not cross the floor without asking the people who elected them. President Binaisa said the UNLF, therefore, does not want Ugandans to continue in the same mess of divisionism and crossing the floor.

The president reiterated the UNLF government appeal to all exiles to return home, saying his government's appeals to all exiles to return home, saying his government will not (?refuse) any exile to return home, and he said everybody is free to return home at his own wish.

On the shortage of essential commodities in the country, the president announced that there will be many textiles in the country next month at reasonable prices.

He said the government had already made arrangements to bring food in the country to assist the people in famine-stricken areas.

RULING COUNCIL AGREES TO PROPOSAL FOR EARLY ELECTIONS

LD101634 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 10 Apr 80 LD/EA

[Text] The National Consultative Council [NCC] yesterday accepted the proposal by the National Executive Committee [NEC] to hold general elections by December this year, but has deferred district (?council) elections until later.

Tabling the motion, the minister of culture, rehabilitation and community development, Mr Dan Wadada Nabudere, said that the resolution reflected the views expressed by the members during the debate on the proposal. He made it clear that the resolution was subject to amendment by the members.

In the resolution, the members passed [the proposal] that elections for the president and that of Parliament be held on the same day.

Under the resolution, a successful president-designate will have the power to nominate up to 5 percent of the elected members, names of people who would represent special national interests, but such names would be (?ratified) by Parliament.

The council also decided to appoint a constitutional reform commission to look into the 1967 constitution with a view to reexamining the powers of the president and Parliament, methods of election and other related matters. The commission will report back to the NCC as early as possible. The council further approved that all elections be held under the umbrella of the Uganda National Liberation Front provided that all legally qualified Ugandans are eligible to stand for all public offices.

In this connection, the council directed the NEC and the cabinet to work out concrete measures to implement these decisions, effect such legislative proposals as are necessary and bring them [words indistinct] in good time to enable elections to be held as scheduled.

The revised timetable [word indistinct] leading to the general elections now is as follows: 15 April 1980--appointment of electoral commission and the commission of constitutional reform committee; April-May 1980--publication of (?original) census results; June-July-August 1980--registration of voters and objections; October 1980--nomination of presidential candidates; October 1980--nomination of parliamentary candidates; October-November 1980--campaigning for presidential and parliamentary elections; early December 1980--presidential and general elections.

CHAD

OAU'S EDEM KODJO REPORTS SITUATION IMPROVED

AB101123 Paris AFP in French 1032 GMT 10 Apr 80 AB

[Text] Ndjamea, 9 Apr (AFP)--The situation has improved in Chad even if the cease-fire is not completely effective. This was stated yesterday afternoon by OAU Secretary General Edem Kodjo before he left Ndjamea for Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, via Douala, Cameroon. Mr Kodjo explained that during his 24-hour mission in the Chadian capital, he met President Goukouni Oueddei and Mr Hissein Habre, whose forces have been fighting for almost three weeks now.

Our discussions concerned the cease-fire and the future development of the Chadian situation. I observed that both parties are very much willing to stop the fighting and to consider engaging in discussions and meetings to find concrete solutions to the Chadian problems, added Mr Kodjo.

Concerning the proposed dispatch of a pan-African force to Chad, the OAU secretary general admitted that this is not a simple thing to organize and that this force should not be expected to arrive in Chad very soon, particularly because of logistic problems.

Kamougue's Forces in Battle

AB101210 Paris AFP in English 1202 GMT 10 Apr 80 AB

[By Marc Pondaven and Patrick van Roekeghem]

[Excerpt] Ndjamea, 10 Apr (AFP)--Troops headed by southernist leader Wadal Abdelkader Kamougue joined the battle for the Chadian capital yesterday, shelling the rear flank of defense Minister Hissein Habres troops entrenched in the city's African quarter.

Repeated blasts of artillery rocked the now deserted city from Col Kamougue's men south of the Chagoua Bridge, contrasting with a fall-off in fighting between Mr Habre's Armed Forces of the North and his major opponent President Goukouni Oueddei in the European sector of the city.

The precarious calm between the two main protagonists late in the day was nowhere near the total cease-fire which Togolese President Gnassingbe Eyadema had worked to produce over the weekend.

Factional Comment

AB101832 Paris AFP in English 1816 GMT 10 Apr 80 AB

[Excerpts] Ndjamea, Apr 10 (AFP)--The bloody civil war in Chad raged on today, pushing this ravaged capital deeper into a chaos whose eventual outcome no one here cares to predict. Heavy artillery guns were back in action early today after fighting with automatic weapons going on until late last night.

Libyan radio meanwhile reported an envoy of Chad's transitional government, which is headed by Mr Goukouni, as saying that the government had decided to crush the armed rebellion led by Mr Habre, who is the government's defense minister.

The envoy, Mahamat Nour Adam, a member of Mr Goukouni's FAP [People's Armed Forces] group, arrived in the Libyan capital today to brief the Libyan authorities on the situation in their southern neighbour state, the Libyan news agency, JANA, said.

The Libyan radio report also quoted Mr Adam as saying that his government rejected any conciliation outside the framework of the Lagos agreements.

In Paris, the external affairs spokesman for Mr Habre's forces, Mahamat Ahmat Saleh, who is economy minister in the transitional government, said that negotiation was now the only solution to the conflict. If there is a winner, it will be Libya. It will not be Chad, he said on French radio.

He described implementation of the Lagos agreements as not having priority. The main problem is to know how to stop the fighting, he said.

AFP: WEAPONRY OF WORLDWIDE MANUFACTURE USED IN WAR

AB110945 Paris AFP in English 0908 GMT 11 Apr 80 AB

[By Marc Pondaven]

[Text] Ndjamena, 11 Apr (AFP)--Three weeks of civil war in this central African country have seen a medley of weapons thrown into the battle for the Chadian capital--a conflict in which all the world's major armaments manufacturers appear to be represented.

While Kalashnikov--the Soviet AK-47 rifle--is king, few would dispute that the range of weaponry displayed by both President Goukouni Oueddei's men and the troops of Defense Minister Hissein Habre is as wideranging as any currently being used in murderous combat.

Dominating the rattle of rifle fire are the average 200 shells per day that have blasted this crumbling capital--a total of 4,000 falling in the town's narrow perimeter during the fighting so far.

In the heavy artillery range, the mortar dominates: 60 mm, 81, 120 French and American, and the Soviet M-38 mm and M-41 120mm. Around a dozen recoilless 106 cannon are being used, although there appear more because of their mobility once mounted on jeeps and other light vehicles. Most feared, however, are the multiple-rocket launchers (Stalin Organs) which can spew out up to 16 rockets at a time with 35 kilo (70 pound) warheads over a range of up to 9,810 meters.

Little used in this relatively close-quarters combat, the rocket launchers have shown some of their awesome power--one of their missiles hitting the French ambassador's residence before ending up in the caretaker's fortunately unoccupied house.

Individual heavy armaments include Soviet RPG-7 rocket launchers which can stop an armoured vehicle in its tracks, penetrating armourplating up to 180 mm thick from a distance of 250 meters.

The heavy artillery will pose old problems once the fighting ends. Last year, after previous fighting the French 17th Paratroop Engineering Regiment had the job of clearing up shells which failed to go off either because of inherent bad quality or bad conditions of stockpiling. It took six weeks to clear the capital of 1,300 potentially lethal shells. The tally this year could be worse with the fiercer fighting.

Among other light weapons, besides the Kalashnikov rifle, are Swiss ZIG 7.62 caliber rifles, Belgian FAL guns of the same caliber, the West German G-3, and French MAS-36, 49, and 49-56 models. There are also a few submachineguns--the French PM-49 and even old American tommy guns and Second World War German 9 mm MP 40s. For heavy machineguns, it is Soviet equipment--brought in through Libya or other Arab countries--that again clearly dominates.

LIBERIA

13 ARRESTED OPPOSITION PARTY MEMBERS RELEASED

AB110715 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0625 GMT 11 Apr 80 AB

[Text] Thirteen persons arrested for alleged connection with the March 8 PPP [People's Progressive Party] insurrection in Liberia have been released by Justice Minister Joseph J. P. Chesson for lack of sufficient evidence to prosecute them. At the press interview, Mr Chesson said his ministry was primarily concerned with the prosecution of those involved in what he called "violating the laws of the country."

NEW LIBERIAN ATTACKS AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL'S REPORT

AB101941 Paris AFP in French 1705 GMT 10 Apr 80 AB

[Text] Monrovia, 10 April (AFP)--In an editorial published on Thursday by the NEW LIBERIAN, the official organ of the Liberian Ministry of Information, there is a violent attack on the criteria by which Amnesty International defines the violation of fundamental liberties.

In any case, the paper writes, this London-based organization cannot, for example, claim to act according to principles rooted in African traditions or Latin American traditions. This fact easily justifies the affirmation that although Amnesty International may consider something to be a violation, it may not necessarily be so from another point of view.

Amnesty, which has given itself the responsibility of determining what constitutes a violation of basic liberties and what does not, allows itself to be manipulated by opposition groups, the NEW LIBERIAN thinks.

The paper, which was commenting on the report published recently by Amnesty International accusing the Liberian Government of launching searches for members of the banned opposition--dead or alive--(a fact the government denies), concludes in these terms: Amnesty has its rules and Liberia its constitution. The Liberian Government will not allow any government or organization, including Amnesty, to dictate its policy to it.

NIGERIA

LAGOS REPORTS ON TOGOLESE PRESIDENT'S TALKS WITH SHAGARI

AB101755 Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 10 Apr 80 AB

[Text] A summit meeting between Nigeria and Togo took place in Lagos today, at which bilateral and international issues were discussed. The discussions between the visiting Togolese leader, President Gnassingbe Eyadema and his host, President Shehu Shagari, dealt primarily with the supply of Nigerian crude oil to Togo.

Other areas covered were agriculture, air services, ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States], the possibility of purchasing finished goods from Nigeria, as well as the Chadian situation. Talks have also been held between officials of both countries. A communique on the discussions is being released.

The Togolese leader's first engagement on arrival in Lagos earlier today was laying a wreath at the Tafawa Balewa cenotaph. General Eyadema returns (?home) today.

Joint Communique

AB110655 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 11 Apr 80 AB

[Text] Nigeria and Togo have agreed to examine the problems affecting the supply of Nigeria's crude oil to Lome with a view to solving them. In a joint communique issued in Lagos yesterday at the end of a 1-day state visit to Nigeria by the Togolese leader, President Gnassingbe Eyadema, the two countries agreed to give precise instructions on the issue to their relevant departments. Both countries further agreed to strengthen the scientific and technical cooperation existing between them. Efforts are also to be intensified with the aim of improving communications between the two countries.

On the situation in Chad, Nigeria and Togo appealed to the parties involved in the conflict to respect the cease-fire accord worked out in Ndjamena and urged them to meet as soon as possible to find a lasting solution to the conflict as provided for in the agreement reached earlier in Lagos. On Namibia, President Shagari and Eyadema called for the withdrawal of the forces of apartheid South Africa from that territory and demanded the implementation of all relevant OAU and United Nations resolutions on the territory.

President Eyadema returned home last night. In the meantime, President Shagari has accepted an invitation to visit Togo at a convenient date.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO AID REFUGEES FROM CHAD

AB101802 Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 10 Apr 80 AB

[Text] The presidential liaison officer in Borno State, Alhaji [Katsalal Kerkou], has given the assurance that the federal government will ease the problems of Chadian refugees in the state. In an official statement, Alhaji [Katsala] said that a detailed investigation was being carried out to determine the actual number of Chadian refugees entering Nigeria and the form of aid they would give.

He further gave the assurance that the federal government would supply aid in the form of food, drugs, and bedding for the (?refugees). The statement praised the Borno State government for allowing the (Mouna) farm center near Maiduguri to be used as a temporary reception center for the refugees.

SIERRA LEONE

PRESIDENT STEVENS REVEALS TAXATION DELINQUENCY

AB110820 Freedom Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 10 Apr 80 AB

[Excerpts] President Siaka Stevens today revealed that taxation arrears in the nation accounts for well over 100 million leones deficit in revenue collection over a 10 year period. Speaking at the Mayamba district combined APC [All People's Congress] convention and first agricultural show and trade fair, his excellency observed that such taxation delinquents often constitute a potential source of trouble in any society. However, President Stevens noted that the minister of finance and his ministry officials have initiated an intensive collection campaign which, he said, yielded collection returns totalling 1.5 million leones.

President Stevens issued a general warning to all defaulters to fulfill their obligations according to the law, thereby saving the government the trouble of having to involve any of the provisions of the income tax act.

On other matters, his excellency emphasized the necessity for discipline in the conduct of party organizations. He went on to say that next to discipline comes dedication to service not only to friends but also for the nation as a whole. President Stevens appealed to all to respect authority in all aspects of chieftdom and district administration. In this connection, he referred to presentations often made to government in relation to grievances against removal of elected or appointed officials.

President Stevens congratulated the people for their willingness to resolve the long outstanding dispute involving the paramount chief and people of Kabara chieftdom. He counseled everyone to be committed to the principle of peaceful solution of problems and the need to work in harmony for the common good. This, his excellency went on, should be one of the hallmarks of the convention's proceedings.

FOREIGN MINISTER ABBOH COMMENTS ON CURRENT ISSUES

AB110855 Freetown Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 11 Apr 80 AB

[Excerpts] Speaking in Paris at the recent ministerial preparatory meeting for the forthcoming Franco-African summit which will be held in France next month, the minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr S. R. Philip Abboh, spelled out Sierra Leone's attitude to international cooperation, especially in the socioeconomic field. Mr Philip Abboh, who led Sierra Leone's observer team for the first time to the meeting on the invitation of the French Government, paid tribute to the French Government for spearheading what he described as a wholesome brand of international dialog into which Sierra Leone is beginning to get an insight with enthusiasm.

On international economic problems, the minister said the inability to solve the dominant problems has been the failure to realize the objectives envisaged in the new international economic order. He pointed out that this inability retards the progressive concept of the North-South dialog which seeks to influence the progress of the peoples of the less developed countries. Mr Philip Abboh stated that as Sierra Leone prepares to host the next OAU summit conference, many issues such as international economic problems, inter-African cooperation or alternative sources of energy, which have been treated at the conference, are also being proposed for discussion at the OAU summit. The minister expressed the hope that French-African cooperation would be enlarged to include Europe, Africa and the Arab world.

TOGO

PRESIDENT EYADEMA DEPARTS FOR BRIEF VISIT TO LAGOS

AB101345 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 10 Apr 80 AB

[Excerpt] President Eyadema left Lome this morning for Lagos. He is expected to return home this afternoon.

UPPER VOLTA

ACTIVITIES OF VISITING GHANAIAN PRESIDENT REPORTED

AB092044 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 9 Apr 80 AB

[Text] The president of the Republic of Ghana, Dr Hilla Limann, arrived in our capital this morning for a 2-day working visit.

The Ghanaian head of state was welcomed on arrival at the Ouagadougou international airport by President Sangoule Lamizana, surrounded by the prime minister, Dr Joseph Conombo, members of the government, the diplomatic corps and the director of the cabinet.

During a press interview, Dr Limann, who is accompanied by an important delegation, stressed the excellent relations that exist between the two countries. This afternoon delegations from the two countries met for a working session at the offices of the Council of Ministers. President Limann then paid a visit to the Ghana Embassy, where he met the Ghanaian community. This evening at 2030, General Lamizana will offer a dinner in honor of his guest. Tomorrow morning the two heads will have discussions, followed by the signing of a joint communique. The Ghanaian head of state and his entourage will leave for Accra at 1500.

Joint Communique

AB102230 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 10 Apr 80 AB

[Joint communique on Ghanaian President Hilla Limann's 9-10 April visit to Upper Volta; read by Voltan Foreign Minister Moussa Kargougou--Recorded]

[Excerpts] The head of state of the Republic of Ghana, his excellency, Dr Hilla Limann, was in Ouagadougou on a working visit from 9 to 10 April. Presidents Hilla Limann of Ghana and Aboubacar Sangoule Lamizana of Upper Volta had fruitful and brotherly private discussions, and the delegations of the two countries held meetings.

The two head of state examined ways and means of strengthening and developing bilateral cooperation between their two fraternal countries, and they also examined all aspects of the burning issues in the subregion and on the entire African Continent, as well as the international situation.

In the field of bilateral relations, the two heads of state expressed their satisfaction over the close ties existing between the fraternal peoples of Upper Volta and Ghana, and they also expressed satisfaction over the favorable results of the work of the subcommission on the demarcation of the Ghana-Upper Volta border.

The two heads of state reaffirmed their desire to further promote the development of cooperation between their countries, particularly by reviving and concretely applying all the bilateral accords. Toward this end, the two heads of state have decided that the Ghana-Upper Volta joint commission will resume its activities within the shortest time possible.

Convinced of the mutual advantages to be gained from the Bui-(Numbiem) project, in its capacity as a positive example of subregional cooperation, the two heads of state agreed to constitute a tripartite committee of experts from Upper Volta, Ghana and Ivory Coast which will meet as soon as possible to draw up concrete recommendations for the governments of the three countries so that they may be implemented immediately.

With regard to the West African subregion, the two heads of state reviewed the work accomplished by the Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS, and they reaffirmed their support for this organization.

Within the framework of reinforcing cooperation among the states of the subregion, the two heads of state agreed on the need to move quickly toward harmonizing their financial, monetary and commercial policies more seriously.

The two heads of state stated that peace and security were basic conditions for harmonious development in the countries of the subregion. The general situation in Africa was at the center of the talks between the two heads of state. Thus, after deploring the situation in Chad, they expressed their support for the mediation in the matter of the OAU and of President Eyadema of Togo, and they launched an appeal to all the parties concerned to respect the cease-fire scrupulously.

Presidents Aboubacar Sangoule Lamizana and Hilla Limann reaffirmed their determination to fight increasingly for the elimination of minority white regimes in southern Africa. They also reaffirmed their unflinching support for the liberation movements in southern Africa.

Finally, Presidents Aboubacar Sangoule Lamizana and Hilla Limann warmly welcomed the victory of the Patriotic Front in Zimbabwe, which is an important step toward the total liberation of the continent and the achievement of African unity. They expressed their total support for the efforts made by the new Zimbabwe to achieve unity and national reconstruction.

On the situation in Western Sahara, the two heads of state renewed their support for the resolutions and the efforts made by the OAU with a view to restoring peace there.

On the situation in the Middle East, Presidents Hilla Limann and Aboubacar Sangoule Lamizana expressed their preoccupation over the situation and reaffirmed their support for the pertinent resolution of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations Organization.

Examining international economic problems, Presidents Aboubacar Sangoule Lamizana and Hilla Limann deplored the slowness of negotiations for the establishment of a new world economic order, and they appealed to all nations concerned to double their efforts to reduce the ever-widening gap between the so-called rich and poor countries. To this end, the two heads of state said that the development of cooperation between developing countries is a basic necessity.

At the end of his state visit, His Excellency President Hilla Limann gave his hearty thanks to His Excellency Gen Aboubacar Sangoule Lamizana, president of the Republic of Upper Volta, to the government and people of Upper Volta for the warm, brotherly and authentically African welcome given him and his delegation. In the name of the government of the Republic of Ghana, President Hilla Limann extended an invitation to President Sangoule Lamizana to visit Ghana at a date to be fixed later. President Aboubacar Sangoule Lamizana accepted this invitation with pleasure.

Signed in Ouagadougou on 10 April 1980, by His Excellency El Haj Aboubacar Sangoule Lamizana, president of the Republic of Upper Volta, for the republic of Upper Volta; and by His Excellency Dr Hilla Limann, president of the Republic of Ghana, for the Republic of Ghana.

ANGOLA

SED CENTRAL COMMITTEE'S BRASCH ARRIVES

AB101524 Luanda Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 10 Apr 80 AB

[Text] Mr Horst Brasch, member of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, arrived in Luanda yesterday for talks with the leaders of the MPSA Workers' Party. The German delegation's visit to our country falls within the framework of the traditionally good and friendly relations and cooperation between the MPSA Workers' Party and the Socialist Unity Party of Germany. Mr Brasch was met at the 4 February International Airport on arrival by the secretary to the Central Committee for External Relations, [name indistinct] and the ambassador of the German Democratic Republic to the People's Republic of Angola.

MALAWI

ARMY COMMANDER RETIRES; BANDA APPOINTS SUCCESSOR

LD101050 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 9 Apr 80 LD/CA

[Text] His excellency, the life president, Ngwazi Dr Kamuzu Banda, in his capacity as the commander in chief of the armed forces, has accepted the retirement from the army of Gen Graciano Matewere. An announcement from the office of the president and cabinet in Lilongwe said General Matewere has retired under the provision of regulations which set 50 as mandatory retirement age for all public servants. It said his excellency has however [word indistinct] assigned the retired general other less exacting duties in an important statutory organization.

As a result of this retirement, the life president has appointed Maj Gen Melvin Maluda Khanga as the commander of the Malawi Army. The retirement and consequential appointment take effect from today, 9 April 1980.

MOZAMBIQUE

ARMY COOPERATION ACCORD SIGNED WITH BULGARIA

LD091322 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 09 Apr LD/EA

[Text] Samora Moises Machel, president of FRELIMO and the People's Republic of Mozambique, received Dobri Dzhurov, Bulgarian minister of national defense, in Maputo yesterday.

Mozambique and Bulgaria signed an agreement on cooperation between their armies last night. The document was signed by our minister of national defense, Alberto Chipande, and Dobri Dzhurov.

Also last night, the Bulgarian ambassador to Mozambique gave a reception in honor of Dobri Dzhurov, Bulgarian minister of national defense. Present were the minister of national defense, Alberto Chipande; his deputy, Sebastiao Marcus Mabote; the minister of foreign affairs, Joaquim Chissano; other party and state leaders; and other guests.

'VOICE OF FREE AFRICA' HEARD ON SHORTWAVE

[Editorial Report FCS/WA] The clandestine radio "Voice of Free Africa" ("Voz de Africa Livre") was observed on 31 March broadcasting in Portuguese and vernaculars to Mozambique on 4764 KHZ shortwave, the 62 meter band, from an unknown location. The radio broadcasts daily from 0400 to 0500 GMT and from 1830 to 1930 GMT. Programming includes: music, news, and anti-Machel commentaries.

This anti-FRELIMO, anti-Machel clandestine, which announces as "the Voice of Free Africa, spreading the cry of liberty and the Mozambique people's rights in the struggle against oppression, slavery, and Machelist communism," was first observed in July 1976 operating on 998 KHZ. In June 1978 the station moved to 1020 KHZ where it remained until 13 February 1980 when it made its last appearance on the air.

SOUTH AFRICA

FOREIGN MINISTER BOTHA REJECTS ZAMBIAN AGGRESSION CLAIM

LD111100 Johannesburg International Service in English 0400 GMT 11 Apr 80 LD

[Text] The South African foreign minister, Mr Roelof Botha, says that Zambia and not South Africa should stand accused before the UN Security Council because of its persistent and continuous breach of provisions of both international law and of the UN Charter. In a letter to the president of the Security Council, Mr Botha said that existing channels of communication which arose from a policy of South African cooperation with Zambia would provide the means of settling matters of alleged concern to Zambia bilaterally. The letter was released in Capetown in reply to a Zambian allegation of South African aggression. A closed meeting of the Security Council was held last night to discuss the Zambian allegations. An open debate on the issue will follow later.

Mr Botha said that South Africa would remain responsible for the peace and security of South-West Africa--Namibia--and its inhabitants, and the country had no alternative but to take protective action against aggression committed from Zambian soil. The bilateral nature of the issues emerged clearly from the fact that Zambia accommodated on its territory elements hostile to South Africa and South-West Africa-Namibia. These elements were actively engaged in campaigns of subversion, sabotage and terrorism.

RADIO REPORTS SENDING OF CORN SUPPLIES TO RHODESIA

LD101540 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 10 Apr 80 LD

[Text] South Africa is sending emergency supplies of maize to Zimbabwe under an agreement with the administration to be taken over officially by the prime minister-designate, Mr Robert Mugabe, in 8 days' time.

Senior government sources in Capetown say that Zimbabwe's own maize stocks, which had been sufficient even during the height of the bush war, had now reached dangerously low levels. In some areas of the country acute drought and the evacuation of white farmers over several years has reduced stocks to a point where they could be used up as early as the end of next month. Officials today declined to disclose the amount of maize going to Zimbabwe, but indicated that it was fairly substantial and that deliveries had begun some weeks ago after discreet approaches for help from Salisbury. South Africa has not exported maize to Zimbabwe for more than 14 years.

At least two other countries, Zambia and Mozambique, are being supplied with South African maize in sizeable quantities, and it is thought likely that drought might oblige Botswana to follow suit.

ZAMBIA

OFFICIAL TO BRIEF UN ON SOUTH AFRICAN ATTACKS

LD101044 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 9 Apr 80 LD/CA

[Text] Member of the central committee, Mr Reuben Kamanga, has left Zambia for New York to present to the United Nations Security Council Zambia's case about South Africa's repeated attacks against her. A spokesman for foreign affairs said today that Mr Kamanga, who is chairman of the political, legal, constitutional and foreign affairs committee, is accompanied by minister of education and culture, Prof Lameck Goma. He said the trip to New York follows an urgent meeting convened by President Kaunda with heads of missions from Canada, Britain, United States of America, the Federal Republic of Germany and France.

Condemnation Request

LD111058 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 11 Apr 80 LD/CA

[Text] Zambia has urged the Security Council to strongly condemn South Africa's continued occupation of Western Province and demand its immediate withdrawal. Speaking before the Security Council, chairman of the legal and political committee of the central committee, Reuben Kamanga, informed the members about the fascist regime's continued unprovoked aggression against Zambia's Western Province. In his appeal for stern measures against the regime, Mr Kamanga said there was an urgent need for the Security Council to act decisively and effectively. He said the presence of South African troops on Zambian soil and their terror tactics have led to destruction of normal life in Senanga and Sesheke districts in the province.

PRESIDENT KAUNDA BEGINS OFFICIAL VISIT TO CHINA

For PRC media reports on President Kaunda's visit to China beginning on 9 April, see the Middle East & Africa section of the 9 April People's Republic of China DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.